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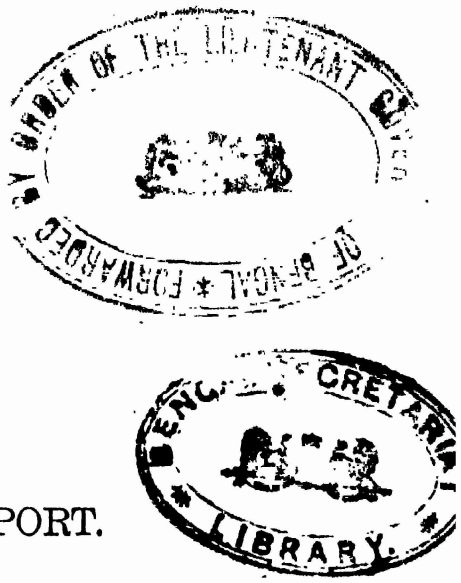
DISTRICT CENSUS REPORTS, 1891.

BURDWAN DIVISION.

CONTENTS.

		Page.					
		Burd-wan.	Bir-bhum.	Ban-kura.	Midna-pore.	Hoogh-ly.	How-rah.
Head	I Early History, &c.	1	25	43	57	63	97
„	II Movement of the Population	3	26	43	57	65	99
„	III Varying density of the Population . . .	4	28	44	58	69	103
„	IV Religion	4	29	45	58	70	105
„	V Infirmities	5	30	46	58	73	106
„	VI Education	7	31	47	59	74	107
„	VII Language	10	32	48	59	78	110
„	VIII Castes	11	32	49	59	79	111
„	IX Occupations	12	35	51	62	81	115
„	X Administrative	12	38	53	62	88	120
	Appendix	19	40	...	...	90	...



DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

No. 340., dated Burdwan, the 16th May 1892.

From—H. C. Williams, Esq., Magistrate of Burdwan.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

With reference to Bengal Government circular No. 6T.—F., dated 3rd October last, I have the honour to submit the following report on the census of this district.

2. I joined the district in November last, and do not, therefore, possess any personal knowledge of the census operations of this district. No note on the subject has been left me by my predecessors; and the Assistant Magistrate, who was in immediate charge of the census work, also left the district without leaving any information behind him. Owing to the want of competent clerks, it was found impossible to complete the work of tabulation in this district, and the Census Superintendent accordingly ordered the work to be finished at Howrah. The absence of statistical information on several important subjects makes it impossible for me to submit a full and satisfactory report on the subject, and I am compelled to confine my report to the statement of facts of a general nature, and to the discussion of such statistics as I have been able to secure.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF BURDWAN, 1891.

Head I.—Early History, &c.

The area of the present district is 2,697 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Sonthal Parganas and by the districts of Birbhum and Murshidabad; on the east by the Nadia district; on the south by Hooghly, Midnapore, and Bankura; and on the west by Manbhum. The district stretches from the edge of the laterite plateau of Chota Nagpur to the margin of the Gangetic delta. It is nearly twice as long as it is broad, and its whole length is traversed by the East Indian Railway, the line of which is intersected in several places by the Grand Trunk Road. It is, generally speaking, confined within three rivers, viz., the Ajai on the north, the Damodar on the south, and the Bhagirathi on the east. Its eastern boundary is the broadest span of its width, and is continuous for nearly the whole distance with the navigable Bhagirathi. The principal trade centres in the district are situated on this river and the East Indian Railway. A short history of this district will be found in pages 127 and 128 of Dr. Hunter's *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, Volume II.

2. The native population of this district is almost entirely agricultural, save in the Raniganj subdivision, where emigrants employed in the collieries amount to a considerable number. The labouring classes form an important factor, especially in the subdivision of Raniganj.

3. The district at present consists of 4 subdivisions and 17 *thanas*. The Sadar subdivision consists of 8 *thanas*, and each of the 3 *mufassal* subdivisions of Katwa, Kalna, and Raniganj contains 3 *thanas*. The boundaries of the district were last fixed in 1879. It formerly consisted of 6 subdivisions and 22 *thanas*. There was a general transfer of jurisdiction with effect from the 1st of October 1879, when the Jahanabad subdivision was transferred to Hooghly and the Bood-Bood subdivision was abolished. The staff of the latter subdivisional office was transferred to Vishnupur, in the district of Bankura, where a new subdivision was established. Of the 22 *thanas* formerly comprising the district, 5 were transferred to other districts from the above date, viz., Jahanabad and Goghat to Hooghly, and Kotalpur, Sonamukhi, and Indas to Bankura. All subsequent transfers have merely been between *thanas* of this district.

4. The statement below shows the variation of the population of the 17 *thanas* now comprising the district according to the census of 1872, 1881, and 1891, respectively.

Statement showing the area and population of the Burdwan district during the census years of 1872, 1881, *and* 1891.

Name of Thana.	1872.		1881.		1891.		Difference.	Remarks.
	Area.	Population.	Area.	Population.	Area.	Population.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sadar Subdivision.								
Burdwan	185	54,419	185	61,904	185	70,906	9,002	
Sahibganj	124	81,896	124	75,270	124	74,279	— 991	
Khandaghosh	115	67,665	115	55,228	115	55,939	711	
Raona	194	102,005	194	96,943	194	95,339	— 611	
Satgachia	181	131,200	181	102,254	181	98,054	— 3,300	
Jamalpur	113	84,702	113	71,709	113	71,771	62	
Bood-Bood	161	91,301	161	88,123	161	74,749	—13,374	
Ausgram	174	115,393	169	88,261	169	77,938	—10,323	
Total ...	1,246	728,581	1,242	639,692	1,242	619,868	—19,824	
Raniganj Subdivision.								
Raniganj	218	132,282	218	146,785	218	147,964	1,179	
Asansol	272	71,453	272	98,842	272	127,341	28,499	
Kaksa	181	41,282	181	38,787	181	34,968	— 3,819	
Tota ...	671	245,017	671	284,414	671	310,273	25,859	
Katwa Subdivision.								
Katwa	142	83,09[illegible]	142	82,943	142	81,690	— 1,253	
Keugaon	145	82,004	136	76,120	136	76,937	817	
Mangalkot	120	77,655	74	73,444	74	71,600	— 1,844	
Total ...	407	242,[illegible]19	352	232,507	352	230,227	— 2,280	
Kalna Subdivision.								
Kalna	144	121,480	144	92,484	144	90,091	— 2,393	
Purbasthali	118	81,677	116	82,070	116	77,008	— 4,062	
Manteshwar	169	83,181	172	63,053	172	64,323	1,270	
Total ...	431	286,338	432	237,607	432	231,512	— 6,095	
Grand Total ...	2,755	1,502,754	2,697	1,394,220	2,697	1,391,860	— 2,360	

The population according to the census of 1881, as therein shown, is the population of the present area of the respective *thanas* according to the census of that year. From this statement it is seen that in 10 out of the 17 *thanas* the population has gradually decreased since 1872, while taking the district as a whole, its population according to the census of 1891 has increased by only 57 over that of 1881. Compared with the census of 1872, the decrease seems to be rather startling, viz., 73·8 per mille on 110,874 persons, but then it must be remembered the *thana* boundaries were different from what they are now. In two *thanas* only has the increase been anything worth mentioning, viz., Asansol (28,499) and Burdwan (9,002). The increase in the former is due to the opening out of collieries, and to the great extension of railways. These two things have attracted large numbers of Marwaries from up-country, who have settled in Raniganj, Asansol, and Barakar, and thousands of coolies from the districts of Bihar and the neighbouring districts of Manbhum, Birbhum, and the Sonthal Parganas. The increase in the Burdwan *thana* is due to the increase in trade, especially in rice, as is evidenced by the clusters of houses which have sprung up on all sides of the town devoted entirely to the sale of that article, and to the tendency of the present day for population to flit from agricultural to urban areas. It is, however, to a certain extent satisfactory to note that the purely agricultural *thanas*, viz., Keugaon and Manteshwar, show a considerable increase, viz., 817 and 1,270 respectively. The increase in the latter *thana* is mainly due to the establishment of two large marts at Nadanghat and Maldanga. Both of these places are situated on the Khari—a river which flows into the Bhagirathi at Mirzapur, and is navigable for the greater part of the year. Increased trade in Raniganj has also led to an increase of 1,179 in that *thana*. The two other *thanas* which show an increase are Khandaghosh on the south bank of the Damodar (711), and Jamalpur on the east bank (62). I am informed, however, that the figures of 1881 in the last-named *thana*, as well as in Burdwan, included some 5,000 coolies, who were at the time of the census employed in making the Eden Canal, and, this being so, the real increase in these *thanas* is considerably

greater than what is apparent. The discovery of extensive coal-fields and the growing demand for Indian coal; the pottery works of Messrs. Burn and Company at Raniganj, with their enormous outturn, which still fails to supply the demand, which has extended to Burma, the Straits Settlements, and other remote places, the Barakar Iron Works, which were made over by Government about four years ago to a private company that has been putting additional capital into the business; the starting of large paper mills at Ballabpur *vid* Raniganj; and the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, which is making Asansol a large town, have all contributed to raise the Raniganj subdivision to its present position. The extension of the East Indian Railway from Barakar to the Jheria coal mines in Manbhum district will also increase the importance of the west end of the district.

5. The decrease in most of the *thanas* is due to the malarious fever which first broke out in the district in the beginning of the decade 1870—80, and has prevailed ever since with more or less virulence. The decrease is very great in those *thanas* in which the greatest insanitary conditions prevail, viz., obstructed drainage, rank vegetation, and stagnant bils and marshes, especially in Bood-Bood (13,374), Ausgram (10,323), and Purbasthali (4,972).

6. It may here be mentioned that the portion of the district corresponding with the area of the Raniganj subdivision is still called Sikharbhum, and the rest of the district is called Rarh, with this distinction that the portion which does not border on the Bhagirathi goes by the name of *bhitar* (or inner) Rarh. As regards the history of the Kalna subdivision, I send the following extract from the report of the Subdivisional Officer, Babu Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhri:—

"The tract of the country lying on the right bank of the river Bhagirathi, which now passes by the name of Kalna subdivision, was styled Rarhi, one of the five-fold divisions of the country made by Ballal Sen, a renowned Hindu Raja of the Baidya family, who lived more than a thousand years ago. Before the commencement of the Muhammadan rule in Bengal this tract was known to be chiefly occupied by Hindus, who were allured to it from the remote parts, (1) as it was considered a place of pilgrimage; (2) for the advantages of inland trade which it afforded on account of its proximity to the river, which was navigable throughout the year; (3) as well as for its fertility. According to an old Sanskrit *sloka* of *sastras*, a Hindu is forbidden to dwell in a tract where there are not (1) wealthy capitalists to advance loans; (2) Chhatri or Kshattriya, the military defenders, to protect life and property from robbers; (3) Raja or ruler to afford easy redress for grievances; (4) river to afford easy communication with other parts of the country; and (5) Baidya or physician class to afford medical aid. Now the tract under review possessed all those five advantages from very early times. The Muhammadan portions of the population who now dwell in this tract were all originally Hindus, as their natural features and habits of life show, but were compelled to embrace the Muhammadan creed by force of sword or other inducement after the conquest of Bengal by Bakhtiar Khiliji in A.D. 1203. In the last century this tract was also very thickly peopled, and a public road ran through it from Calcutta to Murshidabad with caravan *sarais* at the distance of every eight miles to suit the convenience of travellers, and through this road Lord Clive passed when he marched to dethrone Siraj-ud-Daula in June 1757. Long after the government of the country came into the hands of the English, this tract was formed into a subdivision in September 1861, which passes by name of Kalna subdivision."

Head II.—Movement of the Population.

7. The increases and decreases in some of the *thanas* have already been alluded to in paragraphs 4 and 5, but as far as the Sadar subdivision goes, the decrease is considered by the District Superintendent of Police to be partly attributable to two other causes, viz.—(1) the gradual silting up of irrigation tanks, the falling off of cattle, and the consequent change for the worse in the condition of the poorer classes of agriculturists—causes which have, to a certain extent, led to emigration in search of employment in the mills and factories in and about Calcutta; (2) the difficulty in marrying boys of the poorer classes of agriculturists, owing to the parents of the bride demanding large sums in the shape of *pon* or consideration-money. I doubt whether either of these causes has had any large effect on population, although there is a tendency to look to Calcutta as a means of getting wealthy, and many people move that way. The Subdivisional Officer of Raniganj attributes the decrease in Kaksa partly to emigration of labour to the mines, and partly to the ravages of malarious fever. The Subdivisional Officers of Kalna and Katwa report that emigration or immigration in view of permanent settlement has had nothing to do with the variation of the population of their subdivisions.

8. As already noticed, the principal towns are on the East Indian Railway and the Bhagirathi. The growth of the former class, viz., Barakar, Asansol, Raniganj, and Burdwan, has already been alluded to. The principal towns near or on the Bhagirathi, viz., Katwa, Dainhat, Purbasthali, and Kalna, do not show the same improvement, as in them trade is not so flourishing as in former times, though there is still, in years of scarcity like the present, a very large export of rice. One of the reasons of this is that the portion of the Bhagirathi between Kalna and Katwa is gradually silting up.

9. The distinction between the urban and the rural population is very marked. The former belong chiefly to the trading and the service-holding classes, and are generally better educated and more intelligent or shrewd than the latter.

10. There is no migration from this district to Bihar, but, as stated already, there is a steady influx of coolies into the Raniganj subdivision from the neighbouring districts of the Sonthal Parganas, Manbhum, Birbhum, and also from Bihar. These men are of a poor class.

Head III.—Varying density of the Population.

11. The following table shows the density of population of the different *thanas* according to the census of 1881 and 1891 respectively:—

Name of Thana.	Density of population per square mile in—	
	1881.	1891.
1	2	3
1. Burdwan ...	334·62	383·28
2. Sahibganj ...	607·02	599·00
3. Khandaghosh ...	480·24	486·42
4. Raona ...	499·70	491·40
5. Satgachia ...	564·94	546·80
6. Jamalpur ...	634·59	635·14
7. Bood-Bood ...	547·35	464·27
8. Ausgram ...	522·25	461·17
9. Raniganj ...	673·33	678·73
10. Asansol ...	363·39	468·16
11. Kaksa ...	214·29	193·19
12. Katwa ...	584·11	575·28
13. Keugaon ...	560·08	565·71
14. Mangalkot ...	992·49	967·56
15. Kalna ...	642·25	625·63
16. Purbasthali ...	707·50	664·63
17. Manteshwar ...	366·59	373·97

The cause of the variation in the density of population has been explained under head I.

Head IV.—Religion.

12. The subjoined statement shows the distribution of the population according to the different religions, as ascertained by the respective censuses of 1872, 1881, and 1891:—

Name of Thana.	1872.					1881.					1891.					Remarks.
	Hindu.	Muhammadan.	Christian.	Others.	Total.	Hindu.	Muhammadan.	Christian.	Others.	Total.	Hindu.	Muhammadan.	Christian.	Others.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Sadar Subdivision.																
Burdwan ...	39,680	14,850	223	166	54,419	46,508	15,262	184	...	61,904	54,335	16,346	207	18	70,906	
Sahibganj ...	66,813	15,046	...	37	81,896	60,874	14,396	...	...	75,270	59,544	14,735	...	...	74,279	
Khandaghosh ...	48,834	18,831	...	...	67,665	39,377	15,851	...	...	55,228	39,875	16,064	...	...	55,939	
Raona ...	79,485	22,123	...	398	102,005	76,387	20,556	...	...	96,943	75,757	19,575	...	...	95,332	
Satgachia ...	100,605	30,594	7	4	131,200	78,671	23,578	5	...	102,254	75,802	23,139	...	11	98,952	
Jamalpur ...	64,255	20,447	...	...	84,702	55,552	16,167	...	...	71,709	55,997	15,774	...	2	71,773	
Bood-Bood ...	68,238	23,064	9	...	91,311	68,100	20,023	...	...	88,123	55,986	18,713	...	47	74,746	
Ausgram ...	90,490	15,897	7	...	115,393	74,637	13,622	2	..	88,261	65,411	12,527	...	3	77,941	
Total ...	567,399	160,331	246	605	728,581	500,106	130,445	141	...	639,692	482,707	136,873	207	81	619,868	
Raniganj Subdivision.																
Raniganj ...	123,413	7,175	333	1,361	132,282	135,130	8,390	179	3,077	146,775	133,872	8,856	256	4,980	147,964	
Asansol ...	65,302	2,777	188	3,096	71,453	90,152	4,803	563	3,344	98,842	118,871	7,592	876	2	127,341	
Kaksa	30,986	3,179	7	...	41,242	36,507	2,280	...	...	38,787	32,430	2,089	41	428	34,988	
Total ...	227,901	13,131	528	4,457	245,017	261,778	15,473	742	6,421	284,414	285,173	18,517	1,173	5,410	310,273	
Katwa Subdivision.																
Katwa	68,808	14,244	22	25	83,099	67,658	15,278	12	...	82,943	66,154	15 834	2	...	81,990	
Keugaon ...	67,012	15,052	...	..	82,064	60,219	15,870	2	...	76,723	59,601	17,326	8	...	76,937	
Mangalkot ...	60,699	16,911	3	42	77,655	56,638	16,806	...	...	73,444	54,673	16,927	...	...	71,600	
Total ...	196,519	46,207	25	67	242,818	184,535	47,953	14	..	230,110	180,430	40,787	10	...	230,227	
Kalna Subdivision.																
Kalna	93,178	26,983	41	1,278	121,480	71,300	21,172	12	...	92,484	68,592	21,407	18	14	90,091	
Purbasthali ...	58,814	22,817	44	2	81,677	59,143	22,920	1	...	82,070	55,037	22,061	...	..	77,098	
Manteshwar ...	64,566	18,615	...	...	83,181	45,412	17,641	...	...	63,053	45,804	18,519	...	..	64,323	
Total ...	216,558	68,415	85	1,280	286,338	175,855	61,733	13	...	237,607	169,433	62,047	18	14	231,512	
Grand Total	1,208,377	287,084	854	6,409	1,502,754	1,122,274	261,613	910	6,421	1,394,220	1,117,743	257,224	1,408	5,505	1,381,880	

Among Hindus there has been a decrease of 4,531 since 1881, while among Muhammadans, on the contrary, there has been an increase of 2,609. While the Burdwan subdivision shows a marked decrease under both religions, Raniganj, as is natural, has increased under both heads, while the Katwa subdivision shows a marked increase, and Kalna a slight increase under Muhammadans. This increase is shared by five out of the six *thanas* of those two subdivisions. There has been a noticeable increase of the Christian population, which, it will be seen, is chiefly confined to the Asansol *thana*, and is due to the development of the coal industry and the extension of railways. There is no apparent increase in converts. Hindus are still in the proportion of 4·08 to 1, compared with all other religions.

Head V.—Infirmities.

13. The following statement exhibits the distribution of infirmities over the different *thanas* according to the censuses of 1872 and 1891. *Thanawari* figures for 1881 are not available. According to the district figures there has been a marked decrease among insanes and deaf and dumb, as well as among blind and lepers, and it is unfortunate that it cannot be ascertained whether this decrease is common to all parts of the district or not. Leprosy, it is to be noted, prevails much more in the Raniganj than in the other subdivisions, and is probably due to the greater number of up-country men there. A leper in the other subdivisions is but seldom seen.

Statement showing infirmities in the district during the census years 1872, 1881, *and* 1891.

Name of Thana.	1872.					1881.					1891.					Remarks.
	Insanes.	Deaf and dumb.	Blind.	Lepers.	Total.	Insanes.	Deaf and dumb.	Blind.	Lepers.	Total.	Insanes.	Deaf and dumb.	Blind.	Lepers.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Sadar Subdivision.																
Burdwan	4	2	22	40	68	...	...	...	...	...	12	37	20	19	88	*Thanawari* figures for 1881 are not available, hence the district totals are given only.
Sahibganj	8	39	57	249	353	...	...	...	...	...	34	85	103	165	387	
Khandaghosh ...	11	20	27	103	161	...	...	...	...	...	17	45	86	107	255	
Raona	20	49	73	164	306	...	...	...	...	...	32	58	78	109	277	
Satgachia	37	44	94	145	320	...	...	...	...	...	15	76	51	88	230	Statement D1 shows 3,002 lepers and this statement 3,001. This statement has been compiled from compilation sheets XI received from the office of the Superintendent of Census Operations, and checked in this office. Statement D1 has also been received from Mr. O'Donnel's office. It is impossible to reconcile the difference of 1, with reference to the two statements.
Jamalpur	15	34	56	72	177	...	...	...	...	...	31	56	100	56	243	
Bood-Bood... ...	29	38	84	200	351	...	...	...	...	...	29	77	85	182	373	
Ausgram	23	61	101	442	627	...	...	...	...	...	19	70	70	203	362	
Total ...	147	287	514	1,415	2,363	...	...	...	...	...	189	504	593	929	2,215	
Raniganj Subdivision.																
Raniganj	18	42	111	555	726	...	...	...	...	...	43	190	118	654	1,005	There is a similar difference of 16 between this statement and statement D4, which cannot be corrected in this office.
Asansol	4	10	41	175	230	...	...	...	...	...	34	117	261	536	948	
Kaksa	7	45	23	206	281	...	...	...	...	...	13	35	32	138	218	
Total ...	29	97	175	936	1,237	...	...	...	...	...	90	342	411	1,328	2,171	
Katwa Subdivision.																
Katwa	21	58	134	159	372	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	5	3	11	
Kengaon	19	16	61	181	277	...	...	...	...	...	24	81	85	151	341	
Mangalkot ...	15	25	72	222	334	...	...	...	...	...	22	80	79	215	405	
Total ...	55	99	267	562	983	...	...	...	...	...	47	172	169	369	757	
Kalna Subdivision.																
Kalna	50	24	115	171	360	...	...	...	...	...	44	97	103	126	370	
Purbasthali ...	35	53	104	168	360	...	...	...	...	...	23	76	107	111	317	
Manteshwar ...	27	35	116	277	455	...	...	...	...	...	31	66	92	138	327	
Total ...	112	112	335	616	1,175	...	...	...	...	...	98	239	302	375	1,014	
Grand Total ...	343	595	1,291	3,529	5,758	712	1,749	2,452	4,118	9,031	424	1,257	1,475	3,001	6,157	

14. The statements below, marked D1 to D4, show the details of infirmities according to castes. Similar details according to different parts of the district and occupations are not available, as the Census Superintendent has not supplied this office with the number of persons of different castes in the district, so that it is impossible to say to what extent the different kinds of infirmities prevail amongst people of different castes. Statement D1 shows that there are 2,139 male and 862 female, total 3,001 lepers in the district. This statement also shows that nearly half of them are Muhammadans, and this fact shows that there is probably some truth in the Hindu theory that the use of beef in a hot country like India causes leprosy. The

Bauris also have a large number of lepers amongst them, and this caste also has no objection to beef, although they claim to be Hindus. The consumption of *arhar dal* (*cytisus cajan*) not separated from the husk, and also of onions and garlic, as well as liquor, are also said to cause leprosy. Leprosy amongst the higher castes of Hindus, who abstain from beef, onions, and garlic, and generally from animal food, is considered to be the result of badly-treated syphilis, and especially due to the abuse of mercury in the healment of the disease. It is also worthy of notice that the Muhammadans furnish a very large proportion of insanes, viz., 155 out of 424, deaf and dumb, 532 out of 1,258, and blind, 611 out of 1,491. The Bauris also contribute largely to the last two classes.

15. Insanity was understood by the enumerators to mean ক্ষেপা, পাগল বা বায়ু রোগী, and leprosy to mean কুষ্ঠ রোগ বা মহাব্যাধি. White leprosy or ধবল was not included in the category of leprosy.

STATEMENT D1.

Lepers.

Castes.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Castes.	Total.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Aguri	36	24	12	Kahar	2	1	1
Bagdi	132	86	46	Kadra	34	18	16
Brahman	108	73	35	Koiri	5	5	...
Bhuimali	33	27	6	Julua	4	3	1
Bedia	4	3	1	Mayara	7	2	5
Baniya	28	13	15	Kochh	7	6	1
Baidya	6	6	...	Shaikh	1,126	845	281
Bhuiya	3	2	1	Sadgop	49	32	17
Bauri	355	243	112	Sunri	42	18	24
Chhutar	6	2	4	Santhal	49	35	14
Dom	23	15	8	Rajput	3	1	2
Dhoba	2	2	...	Teli	28	17	11
Buna	1	1	...	Tambuli	1	1	...
Goala	103	78	25	Chamar	47	41	6
Gandhabanik ...	10	1	9	Napit	37	27	10
Jugi	1	1	...	Vaishnava ...	94	77	17
Chunari	1	1	...	Pathan	205	154	51
Kamar	24	10	14	Sayyid	124	89	35
Kayastha	67	45	22	Pod	22	3	19
Kumhar	18	10	8	Namasadr ...	59	47	12
Kotal	14	13	1	Kewat	1	...	1
Kansari	10	8	2	Unspecified ...	1	1	...
Kurmi	3	3	...	Tanti	31	23	8
Kaibartta	24	16	8				
Chasa Dhopa ...	12	10	2	Total ...	3,002	2,139	863

STATEMENT D2.

Insanes.

Brahman	44	24	20	Bhumij	5	5	...
Goala	12	7	5	Shaikh	153	90	63
Kayastha	3	2	1	Kadra	12	10	2
Dom	5	2	3	Pathan	2	2	...
Tanti	2	2	...	Kalu	3	1	2
Bagdi	44	23	21	Sarak	2	1	1
Kamar	4	4	...	Sunri	10	9	1
Aguri	11	8	3	Vaishnava	4	2	2
Napit	13	1	12	Kaibartta	45	30	15
Teli	20	20	...	Uriya	1	...	1
Bauri	12	8	4	Rajwar	1	...	1
Kshattriya	1	1	...	Kapali	1	...	1
Sadgop	2	1	1	Namasudra ...	1	...	1
Bhuimali	5	3	2	Unspecified ...	1	...	1
Chamar	4	3	1				
Baiti	1	1	...	Total ...	424	260	164

STATEMENT D3.

Deaf-Mute.

Castes.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Castes.	Total.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Sadgop ..	13	7	6	Gandhabanik ...	5	5	...
Sarnakar ...	1	1	...	Sunri ...	13	6	7
Bagdi ...	82	46	36	Baidya ...	3	3	...
Shaikh ...	456	237	219	Kshatriya ...	5	3	2
Dhoba ...	2	2	...	Kochh ...	2	2	...
Aguri ...	10	6	4	Jugi ...	2	2	...
Kalu ...	15	8	7	Namasudra ...	33	31	2
Banik ...	3	2	1	Kaibartta ...	54	39	15
Kayastha ...	61	38	23	Tambui ...	13	13	...
Goala ...	46	37	9	Pathan ...	37	24	13
Brahman ...	85	53	32	Sayyid ...	39	20	19
Bhuimali (Hari)	21	1	20	Teli ...	2	...	2
Chamar ...	17	13	4	Mayara ...	1	...	1
Pod ...	1	1	...	Kumhar ...	2	...	2
Vaishnava ...	18	11	7	Bhuiya ...	1	...	1
Napit ...	27	27	...	Sonthal ...	4	...	4
Dom ...	7	5	2	Kadra ...	30	...	30
Tanti ...	6	3	3				
Kamar ...	17	9	8				
Bauri ...	124	57	67	Total ...	1,258	712	546

STATEMENT D4.

Blind.

Namasudra ...	1	1	...	Kumhar ...	6	2	4
Shaikh ...	532	258	274	Koiri ...	1	1	...
Vaishnava ...	55	15	40	Sonthal ...	4	1	3
Dhoba ...	2	1	1	Sadgop ...	18	8	10
Kayastha ...	17	16	1	Mayara ...	6	1	5
Goala ...	52	26	26	Rajput ...	2	1	1
Bagdi ...	123	43	80	Napit ...	4	1	3
Bauri ...	245	132	113	Kotal ...	5	2	3
Kalu ...	14	4	10	Pathan ...	48	26	22
Brahman ...	94	50	44	Sayyid ...	29	17	12
Aguri ...	11	6	5	Kshatriya ...	4	...	4
Dom ...	8	4	4	Bhuiya ...	4	...	4
Chamar ...	10	5	5	Kurmi ...	3	...	3
Baidya ...	3	3	...	Kahar ...	1	...	1
Tanti ...	7	3	4	Jugi ...	1	...	1
Sunri ...	11	5	6	Nuri ...	2	...	2
Kaibartta ...	79	26	53	Tambuli ...	3	...	3
Kamar ...	13	5	8	Kansari ...	3	...	3
Chhutar ...	10	5	5	Pod ...	2	...	2
Banik ...	12	8	4				
Bhuimali ...	5	3	2				
Teli ...	41	34	7	Total ...	1,491	718	773

Head VI.—Education.

16. The subjoined statement gives the classification, according to religion, of the pupils, literate and illiterate, during 1891 as compared with 1881. The figures for 1872 are not available.

Religions.	1872(a).				1881.				1891.				Remarks.
	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Hindu	...	...	...	...	29,372	55,565	1,035,739	1,120,676	32,360	71,517	1,013,866	1,117,743	
Musalman	...	...	...	...	3,535	7,189	253,022	263,816	6,439	10,944	250,741	267,224	
Christian	...	...	...	...	122	491	297	910	224	880	304	1,408	
Buddhist	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	6	
Jain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	12	17	
Brahmo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	
Animistic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	441	442	
Atheist	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
Jews	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	1	...	1	
Unspecified	...	...	...	...	5	5	6,408	6,418	...	...	19	19	
Sonthal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5,011	5,017	
Total ...	...	...	...	...	33,034	63,250	1,295,539	1,391,823*	39,024	82,457	1,270,399	1,391,880	

* There is a difference of 2,307 between this total and the corrected total, which cannot be reconciled, as the corrected details of education are not available.
(a) The figures for 1872 are not available.

viz., Raniganj, Kakse, and Asansol. The statements annexed for the purposes of the third point of enquiry refer to the educational condition of the district in 1887, as they have had to be prepared from the departmental subsidiary tables Nos. I and II of that year, the information therein contained, and which is now required for this report, not being available in the departmental returns of subsequent years. It may here be added that there is no material difference in the educational condition of the district in 1887 and that at the end of year 1890-91.

31. Statement No. I shows the spread of education in different parts of the district in relation to character, that is, the social position of the scholars according to the occupation of the guardians. The richer class includes those whose yearly income is above Rs. 5,000. The middle classes include those whose yearly income from service, estates, profession, or trades varies from Rs. 200 to Rs. 5,000, and the poorer classes are composed of men whose income from service, agriculture, trade, skilled labour and common labour does not exceed Rs. 200 per annum.

32. Statement No. II shows the spread of education in different parts of the district in relation to the caste and creed of pupils. The Hindus have been divided into four classes as shown in columns 4 to 7.

33. Statement No. III shows the spread of education in different parts of the district in relation purely to the religion of scholars.

34. Statement No. IV shows schools and pupils of each circle of the district on the 31st March 1891.

35. It will be seen from statement No. I that in the high English schools, the proportion of pupils drawn from the richer class is the largest in the Katwa Circle, it being 11·7 per cent. of the total number of pupils in these schools in that circle, and that there is not a single pupil belonging to this class in the Kalna Circle. The percentage of pupils in high schools on total school-going population is highest in the Sadar Circle. The percentage of pupils receiving English education and belonging to the middle classes is above 40 per cent. in all the circles except Raniganj, where in high English schools the percentage falls to 38·6, and in the Sadar, where in middle English schools the percentage is nearly 34. The proportion of pupils of the poorer classes is highest in the high English schools in the Raniganj Circle, it being 58·7 per cent. there, and in the middle English schools in the Sadar Circle the percentage is so high as 66. In the case of vernacular schools, however, the poorer classes predominate in all parts of the district.

36. Statement No. II shows that in high and middle schools in all parts of the district, pupils belonging to the upper castes predominate, the percentage of pupils of these castes being on an average 58 for the Sadar, 65 for the Raona, 54 for the Mankar, 59 for the Kalna, 68 for the Katwa, and 66 for the Raniganj Circle.

37. In the matter of primary education, the second class of Hindus, viz., the Navasakhas, predominate more or less in all the circles, the third class, viz., carpenters and the like, show the largest percentage (23·3) in the Kalna Circle, and the smallest (8·2) in the Raona Circle; the fourth or the lowest class of Hindus is the largest (6·7) in the Sadar Circle, and the smallest (2·1) in the Kalna Circle.

Spread of education among so-called aboriginal races.

38. The only subdivision where Sonthals and other aboriginal races are found is Raniganj. Here they come from the hilly and woody tracts of Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas to work in the coal mines, to work in the western portion of the subdivision in the iron-works at Barakar, and in the pottery works at Raniganj. Before 1890 there was no special provision for the education of their children, who seldom, if ever, attended any of our educational institutions, but since the beginning of 1890, with the special annual grant of Rs. 800 sanctioned for the education of the miners' children in the Barakar and Raniganj coal districts, schools have been opened where the aboriginal pupils receive free tuition. The number of such pupils attending these institutions on the 31st March 1891 was 91, besides a single pupil who attended a middle English school in the Sadar Circle, so that 92 pupils altogether were receiving some sort of instruction in the district. Eight special schools have now been working in which these pupils learn reading, writing, and arithmetic. It seems strange that the educational statement for the Burdwan district compiled in the Calcutta Census Office, a copy of which has been forwarded to me, does not return a single aboriginal pupil at the last census. The total number of pupils in the district as shown in that statement for the census years 1881 and 1891 do not also agree with those contained in the departmental returns for those years.

Head VII.—Language.

39. The following statement shows the number of persons talking the different languages, as ascertained by the censuses of 1881 and 1891, respectively. Similar statistics for 1872 are not available. *Thanawari* information on the subject also is not available. The increase in the number of Hindi and Sonthali-talking people is due to the influx of imported labourers into the colliery area of the Raniganj subdivision.

Language returned.

Years.	Bengali.	Hindi.	Santhali.	English.	Others.	Total.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	Figures for 1872 are not available.
1881	1,350,906	20,795	9,219	725	1,158	1,391,823*	
1891	1,319,586	46,317	21,364	1,150	3,459	1,391,880	

Head VIII.—Castes.

40. No statistical information on the above subjects has been furnished by the Census Superintendent, and I can only state the general divisions of caste which prevail not only in this district, but generally throughout Bengal, with the occupations which are generally followed by them. So far as the connection of trade or profession with caste is concerned, I do not think there is hardly any difference in any part of Bengal, especially so far as the mass of people are concerned.

41. Brahmans, the highest caste in the Hindu social system. They are subdivided into two principal groups, viz., Rarhi and Barendra, and there is also a small group of Vaidik Brahmans also in this district, who are considered to be inferior to Rarhis and Barendras. The above three classes are, properly speaking, Bengal Brahmans, but besides these there are also Maithali, Kanya Kubja and Utkal (Orissa) Brahmans. The names are derived from the places to which they belong.

The majority of the Brahmans of this district are either cultivators, *lakhirajdars*, or cooks. The whole province is said to be supplied with Brahman cooks from this and the neighbouring district of Bankura, and as a rule they belong to the Rarhi group. Amongst the Brahmans there are also *zamindars*, Government servants, servants under private companies and *zamindars*, priests, pleaders, *muktears*, and medical practitioners.

42. The next in social scale are the Kshatriyas, Chhatris, and Rajputs. There is indeed very little difference between them. They form the warrior caste of India. Most of them are agriculturists, and those who have not lands for their support take service as police constables, *darwans*, and peons.

43. The next in order are the Baidyas. They are supposed to have been born of a Sudra woman by a Brahman father, and the Brahmans hold that on account of this connection with a Brahman, they presume to wear the sacred thread, which, however, they do not wear on their shoulders like the Brahmans, but wear it round the waist. Their professions are as follows:—Kabirajes, Government servants, *zamindari* servants, landholders, and cultivators. They are divided also into two groups, viz., Rarhi and Bangaja.

44. The Kayasthas come next in order, and they are subdivided into four principal groups, viz, Dakhin-rarhi, Uttar-rarhi, Bangaja, and Barendra. They correspond to the *Lalas* of Bihar and the Karans of Orissa. They originally came as menial servants of the five Brahmans who came from Kanauj to settle in Bengal, but they now follow respectable professions, and many of them now stand very high in society.

45. The remaining Hindu castes come under the general title of Sudra, but they are of various grades in Hindu society. The higher caste Sudras, who are called Navasakhas, are as follows:—

Napit—Barbers.
Kamar—Blacksmiths.
Kumhar—Potters.

Sadgop—Agriculturists.
Modak—Confectioners.

Gandhabanik—Dealers in spice.
Barui—Sellers of pân.
Aguri—Tenure-holders and occupancy *raiyats*.
Tanti—Weavers.
Kansari—Dealers in brass utensils.

Intermediate Sudras.

Goalas—Milkmen.

Kaibarttas—Day-labourers and agriculturists.
Subarnabanik—Dealers in gold.

Low Sudras.

Chhutar—Carpenters.
Sarnakar—Goldsmiths.
Jugi—Weavers of coarse cloth.
Chunari—Dealers in lime.
Sunri—Sellers of liquor.
Kalu—Oilmen.
Dhoba—Washermen.

Malo, Jalia—Fishermen.
Hari, Dom—Basket-weavers, &c.
Muchi—Cobbler.
Bagdi, Bauri—Palki-bearers, day-labourers.
Chandal—Cultivator and beggar.

46. *Muhammadan Sects.*—There are the two well-known Muhammadan sects in the district, viz., Sunnis and Shiahs. The bulk of the Muhammadan population are Sunnis.

* There is a difference of 2,327 between this total and the corrected total, which cannot be reconciled, as the corrected details of languages are not available.

47. On this subject I also send an extract from the report of the Subdivisional Officer of Kalna, Babu Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhri:—

"Of the four-fold castes of the Hindus and their occupations as described by Manu, the ancient legislator, viz.,—(1) Brahman, the sacerdotal class, (2) Kshatriyas, the military class, (3) Vaisya, the commercial class, and (4) Sudras, the servile class, performing all menial services to the first three upper classes; the second (Kshatriya) and the third (Vaisya) are said to be extinct. The first three classes spread over the country with Aryan conquests. The rules of the caste system were rigidly observed in the days of the Hindu rulers, when any breach of, or deviation from, them was visited with corporal punishment in the courts of criminal justice. The rulers, too, took frequent advantage of them, and used them as State engines to keep a mutual check over all other classes and to overawe the vulgar. After centuries of misrule under the Muhammadan Government, under which the country groaned, the caste rules of Manu have all been thrown *topsy-turvy*, and at present under the liberal administration of the British Government, which allows liberty of thought and action to all its *raiyats* equally, every Hindu is led up to follow his own whim without molestation. The Vaishnavas (lost caste race) and the Jugis (weavers), the two despicable classes, on one hand, are wearing *paita* (the holy Brahmanical thread), to be classed with Brahmans, while on the other hand, the Aguris styling themselves Ugra (hot-headed) Kshatris are trying their best to identify themselves with the second class of Manu. The present caste of Tilis also, who are wealthy and carry on commercial transactions extensively all over the country, are now muttering to be classed as Vaisya; while the Subarnabanicks, with Babu Brohmo Mohun Mullick and Reverend Lall Behari De at their head, have been struggling hard for some years past for the same purpose. The following are the names of castes and tribes that are at present found in this subdivision arranged according to their agricultural status; but none of them as a rule is a *zamindar* or tenure-holder, &c."

Head IX.—Occupations.

48. The following is a list of the castes and tribes arranged according to traditional occupation:—

A.—Agricultural—Aguri, Sadgop, Kaibartta, Sonthal, Bhuiya.

B.—Professional—Brahman, Baidya, Kayastha, Kshatriya, and Rajput.

C.—Commercial—Agarwala, Gandhabanik, Subarnabanik, Teli.

D.—Artisans—Kamar, Kumhar, Kansari, Sankhari, Sekra, Sutradhar, Tanti, Lohar, Sunri, Muchi, Mali, Dom, Chunari.

E.—Pastoral—Goala, Gareri, Kora.

F.—Hunting and fishing—Mal, Jaliya, Kewat, Rajbansi, Chandal.

G.—Serving—Napit, Dhoba, Mihtar, Hari, Bauri, Bagdi.

H.—Unproductive—Vaishnava, Sannyasi, Acharji, Bhat.

As a rule, females in this district do not assist their husbands in outdoor work; but the Sudra women, especially when they are widows and have no one to take care of them, generally serve as menial servants in respectable families. The Bauri, Bagdi, and Hari women generally work as day-labourers and fisherwomen. The male members of their families almost invariably depend upon their females for the sale of their goods, and amongst fruit-mongers, females are also found equally useful.

Head X.—Administrative.

49. *Administration.*—In the Sadar subdivision the general instructions were departed from in one case only. We found that the rapid and accurate count and the submission of M and O forms could not be accomplished in the case of the Burdwan Municipality, if the enumerators were compelled to wait for the schedules of those officials who were on tour on the night of February 26th, before sending in their own block statements, as required in paragraph 2 of Census Superintendent's Circular No. 29. In order, therefore, to save time, those schedules were incorporated in the block in which the official happened to be on the night of the census, and included in the results sent in on the morning of the 27th. In Raniganj all the books were issued to the various supervisors of each *thana* directly from the office of the Subdivisional Officer in order to reduce to a minimum any waste of books or delay in issuing them; consequently the E forms were kept at the head-quarters of the subdivisions, and not at the various *thanas*.

50. In Katwa the house-numbering was begun and for the most part completed before the receipt of instructions; the consequence was that unoccupied houses, temples, &c., were numbered promiscuously with occupied houses, and not at the end of the block. Upon a reference to the Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal, this numbering was allowed to stand.

51. In Kalna subdivision the municipality did not number the houses consecutively throughout the whole town, but *para* by *para*. This was done, I believe, in order to provide for any alteration of municipal limits which may occur in the year 1895, so that the number of houses contained in any *para* which might be included in, or excluded from, municipal limits, might be seen from census records. The same object might easily have been attained by other means, at the same time observing the census rule. In this subdivision the blocking was done by the various Charge Superintendents before instructions on the

subject were received. They adopted 40 houses as the model block, and when I visited the subdivision, I found that this had not been altered or checked at the head-quarters office; consequently there was considerable waste of schedule books in this subdivision.

Definition of a village.

52. In the Sadar, the definition of village was found to be a very workable one. When the *thana* maps were being prepared, a large number of corrections had to be made in reference to this question, not so much regarding places considered to be villages or *paras* in 1881 and *vice versâ*, but with reference to the names given on the survey map of 1857, from which *thana* maps were prepared. In some cases, of course, what were considered villages in 1881 were considered *paras* in this census, and *vice versâ*, but when once the police were informed of the definition of a village, they had no doubt as to whether any particular collection of houses was a true village or not. The Subdivisional Officer of Raniganj did not think it necessary to issue instructions upon this point, as he stated that his supervisors knew quite well whether any particular place was a true village or not, and he thought that any instructions on the point would only tend to confuse their ideas, knowing the extraordinary notions which some supervisors had got hold of upon other points. I think it would have been advisable to issue the definition given, as it is simple enough and not likely to confuse any one.

53. The Subdivisional Officer of Katwa simply says, the definition given appears to be sufficient. The Subdivisional Officer of Kalna apparently thinks, for his language is ambiguous, that such a definition was not needed, as the census officers well knew what a *grám* or *gaon* really was, and how it differed from *tolas*, *paras*, *patis* and *mahallas*. But I do not think that such a common knowledge is entirely to be trusted, and, but for the definition, I am sure that what for census and statistical purposes are true villages would have been treated as *tolas*, *paras*, &c., and *vice versâ*, which latter contingency we are specially required to guard against.

Definition of a house.

54. The definition of a house was also easy to work with. The mess as a unit is well known to all Bengalis, and the system, if properly carried out, ensures uniformity. On the other hand, as one building may have had four or five distinct numbers on it, if it contained four or five messes, it would appear that the definition will not give a correct number of what are ordinarily regarded as houses. Many buildings, which for census purposes have been considered to be two or more houses, are ordinarily regarded as but one simple dwelling-house. In fact, the definition will give the number of joint families rather than occupied buildings, and it is, I think, for that reason that ordinarily the number of occupied houses in some *thanas* of this district appears to be so much greater than it was ten years ago. There can be no doubt that the definition made use of in this census leads to greater accuracy than that adopted for this district in 1880, which was "an occupied building, having one front and one back door." The Subdivisional Officer of Raniganj says, summing up on this point:—"The present unit has conduced to far greater accuracy, and has also simplified the work."

55. The Subdivisional Officer of Kalna says:—"The definition has not much perplexed the census officers, as it accords exactly with the native idea of a house."

56. The Subdivisional Officer of Katwa has, undoubtedly, departed from rule, as only a single number was given to any building having a single and the same main entrance within a single and the same enclosure occupied by any number of joint families, and says the discrepancy thereby produced between the number of houses and of joint families, was subsequently rectified in columns 2 and 4 of the block list. This, he says, was the general plan, and goes on to state that such a collection of buildings is the true native conception of a house or *bari*, and that some violence is done to preconceived native ideas to adopt any other definition. It is, I think, well worthy of note that the opinions of these two last officers, both of whom are natives, as to what a native house really is, are absolutely different, and on the score of accuracy alone I should imagine that the present definition is far preferable to that adopted by the Subdivisional Officer of Katwa.

Size of a charge.

57. In the Sadar, the municipality was made a separate charge, seven police *thanas* were made charges, and the eighth was divided into two charges, because there is an outpost, which, for police purposes, is quite independent of the *thana*. There is no doubt that a *thana* is a large charge, comprising, often, more than forty circles, and this entails a large amount of extra work for the police in properly looking after their respective charges and in issuing vernacular *parwanas* and instructions. They, however, create a large amount of needless work for themselves by adopting ideas of their own and not adhering strictly to their instructions. The Subdivisional Officer of Kalna adopted the *thana* as the charge, and does not comment upon its size. The Subdivisional Officer of Katwa made four subcharges, and the Subdivisional Officer of Raniganj ten. In subdivisions, this plan may be advantageous, but the large number of *thanas* in the Sadar, I think, militates against it, as it would throw an exceedingly heavy burden upon an already overworked staff at the head-quarters, only with the result of relieving *thana* officers of work which the result shows them to have been able to do satisfactorily. Moreover, I am of opinion that to subdivide the *thana* means a perplexing division of responsibility, and would, I feel sure, lead to a great deal of trouble and uncertainty in accurately laying down the local limits of the subcharge. If the *thana* officers keep their work up to date in this district, they would have little difficulty in keeping abreast of it, and I therefore think that the well-known accurately defined police *thana* is for the most part a proper charge.

58. The Subdivisional Officer of Katwa makes no comment on the size of the circle. The Kalna officer states that the area is quite practicable for frequent personal investigation.

Size of a circle.

59. The Raniganj officer is of opinion that the circle is too small, stating that the small area did not give a sufficient incentive to the supervisors, and that they had no opportunity of turning their position to account. It is, I think, questionable if the office of supervisor was ever intended to be turned to any account beyond the honour—for so it was often considered—of doing important Government work. In the Sadar, the size of the circle was very convenient. The difficulty of the work lies, I think, not so much in the number of houses to be supervised as in the distances to be travelled, and 800, or perhaps 1,000, houses would be more satisfactorily looked after where they are close together than 200 scattered in hamlets four or five miles apart. It so happened in the Sadar that by the adoption of 500 houses as the ideal circle, that no village was more than three miles from the head-quarters of its circle except in very exceptional cases, and most of them were much closer.

60. I think for this district a circle of 500 houses is the best that could be fixed upon. If circles were made larger, it is possible that supervisors might feel to a greater extent the responsibilities of their position, and so might do better work; but this possibility would have to be weighed against heavy, and in many cases exorbitant, claims for travelling allowance, for which, as it is, heavy bills are occasionally submitted, and if the efficiency of supervisors were increased, which I doubt, it would be at a greatly increased cost. On the other hand, I do not think the present circle too large, and I think the supervision on the whole has been satisfactory.

61. None of the Subdivisional Officers discuss the size of the block at any length, the general opinion being that it is of a convenient size. I am inclined to think that it is too small, and that 60 houses might well be substituted for 50 as the model block. My chief reason for so thinking is that it is extremely rare, except in towns, for any enumerator to have 50 occupied houses under his charge. To take an example, the average number of occupied houses per block in the Katwa subdivision was 36 [illegible] houses. The fact is that the numbering of unoccupied houses is greatly overdone, and I find the same remark made with reference to this district in 1881. It is perhaps too much to expect the ordinary peasant enumerator to exercise much discretion in numbering, but in almost every village I passed through, little shrines which never had been, and by no possibility ever could be, occupied at night, had been numbered, and even cow-houses and ruined houses were often numbered. The result was that a block of 50 houses, in rural areas at all events, meant ordinarily between 30 and 40 occupied houses averaging about 4·5 persons, or in some blocks less persons per houses; so that, for this district at all events, the size of the block might be increased, and the percentage allowed for large families decreased with safety.

Size of a block.

62. The numbering of houses here was behindhand. Constant *parwanas* and orders issued, but absolutely nothing seemed to be done either by police or supervisors. I visited Mankar, a town in Bood-Bood, on 1st December, saw the four supervisors—one a doctor, one the registrar, two others, school-masters, all intelligent, English-knowing men, who appeared to take an interest in the work. They promised me to number the houses in a day or two. I visited the place again on 18th December, and found that not a single house had been numbered, and this is but a single example of the extraordinary delay in commencing the work—a delay for which I cannot account. Finally, orders were passed on the Charge Superintendents of the Sadar to number their respective charges in a week under penalty of being handed up to the Magistrate for disobedience, and the fear of the penalty produced a result which all other means had failed to do, for reports were received from various inspecting officers that all the houses in the various *thanas* were numbered at the end of that week. In the Sadar tar was used where possible, but in many cases vermilion mixed with oil had to be used, as in some portions of the *thana*, houses are built of dark-coloured mud and have the doors painted with tar, so that some distinctive colour had to be used. The cost of this vermilion was comparatively heavy, and owing to the fact that in some cases supervisors, in others enumerators, and in others the Charge Superintendents supplied vermilion or tar, as the case might be, it would be almost impossible to find out the probable actual cost. The amount borne by the office can perhaps be discovered by going through the bills of all the supervisors. Some of them charged annas 4, some annas 10 for tar, but the latter was not allowed, as it is certainly too much. Where vermilion had to be employed, the cost was on the average rather less than annas 14 per circle. The municipalities bore their own expenses; in rural areas the whole amount for Sadar was paid by the census officer.

Numbering of houses.

63. The Raniganj officer reports that the numbering was mostly done in tar; in some cases red paint or chalk was used; and he estimates the average cost in his subdivision to be annas 10 per 500 houses; this amount was not paid by Government, and he states that it was for the most part defrayed by *zamindars*, village *punchayets*, and in fewer cases by the supervisors themselves.

64. In Katwa the substances used were tar and *girimati*, a kind of yellow earth, and the average cost was annas 2 per 50 houses, which seems rather high.

65. The Subdivisional Officer of Kalna reports that tar, red ink, and earth, most probably *girimati*, were used for house numbering, and that the cost was probably Rs. 5 per charge, which, except in the case of the municipality, was paid by his office.

66. The Subdivisional Officer of Kalna reports that the permanent numbering of houses is quite practicable, provided Government bears the cost, but does not say how it could best be done.

67. The Raniganj officer states that the system could be employed, and that the *punchayet*, *zamindar* or *chaukidar* could number the houses, provided Government bore the cost, but is of opinion that in a large village, owing to the abandonment of houses, the numbering would have constantly to be redone.

68. The Katwa officer thinks that owing to the materials of which the houses are built, the practice of occasionally washing them or recolouring them, and the constant shifting and abandonment of houses by the poorer classes, the plan would hardly be practicable.

69. It is certain that tar would not do in all places, and even vermilion, the prime cost of which would be considerable, would have to be constantly renewed, and from the causes stated by the Subdivisional Officer of Katwa, a permanent numbering would probably be impracticable. At the end of ten years I think the numbers still to be found on any village would be useless for census purposes, unless they had been renewed at least once a year, and unless all new homes had been numbered; and even in that case, from the abandonment of old houses, the numbers would not be consecutive. If this plan of renewing the numbers were adopted, the police perhaps might do the work; but I do not think *chaukidars* or *zamindars* would take any trouble in the matter, and the cost would probably be as great every year as when the numbers were first imposed. If the cost of numbering the houses were to be borne by any person or persons except the Government, probably much harm would be done to future census operations, as the census and the tax—as it would certainly be regarded—would become associated; people would point to it as a tax imposed because of census purposes, and the ordinary villager would certainly get the idea that the next census meant a new tax—an idea of which his mind is gradually becoming disabused.

70. Throughout the district supervisors were mostly drawn from village school-masters, *pandits*, *gumashtas*, petty landholders, shop-keepers, traders, and in parts of Raniganj colliery managers and contractors were appointed supervisors over their works.

Agency.

71. In the Sadar we began by appointing petty landholders to form our main body of supervisors, but the late Magistrate, Mr. Oldham, ordered Mr. O'Donnell's Circular No. 9 to be strictly followed. He allowed appointments already made to stand, but for the future we had to appoint village school-masters as supervisors. This, I submit, was distinctly unfortunate. Such men in the mufassal are for the most part comparatively ignorant, and are certainly without influence; moreover, their pay depends upon the fathers and guardians of their pupils, who objected to their devoting the necessary time to census, and the *pandit* for this reason often undertook his duties with reluctance—a result which can hardly be wondered at. On the other hand, we should have had no lack of petty *talukdars*, most of them distinctly superior to village school-masters in education and intelligence, with more time at their disposal, and influential men in the village who would have had no difficulty in getting assistance.

72. Enumerators were practically drawn from one class throughout the whole district, namely, the more intelligent peasant cultivators.

73. The officers of Kalna and Katwa report that the offices were not undertaken very willingly, and that often persuasion and mild threats were necessary. The latter officer states, however, that when once undertaken, the duties were performed well, and often with enthusiasm.

74. The Subdivisional Officer of Raniganj found that the duties were undertaken with eagerness, and that when objections were made, they were usually well founded. In the Sadar the only persons who objected to act as supervisors were the village school-masters, who stated—probably with truth—that their employers objected to their spending their time on census. We had no objections except on the score of old age or physical incapacity from other classes who were appointed supervisors. Of the enumerators, about 5 per cent. raised objections. Sometimes, when their duties were explained by the supervisors, they consented to act, but generally they had to be brought before some travelling officer, who explained the Census Act to them, and generally sent them away thoroughly frightened and glad to escape without punishment. The excuses in almost all cases were petty and arose from pure laziness; no lenity was shown, and no one was excused without very good reason, as, if there had been any laxness in some few parts of certain *thanas*, there would have been a difficulty in getting other men to do the work, if the excuses of the first men appointed had been accepted.

75. In the Kalna subdivision there were no prosecutions. In Katwa a supervisor was prosecuted after the census was over, for having abandoned his circle just previous to the final count, without any notice or reasonable excuse. In Raniganj a prosecution was instituted against a supervisor, but the case was kept pending, and was finally dismissed, as the man did good work. Prosecutions were also instituted against one supervisor and three enumerators for not attending a meeting ordered for February 27th, and thus causing delay in the submission of returns.

76. In the Sadar four enumerators of Gohogram, *thana* Bood-Bood, were prosecuted for neglect of duty and for wilfully spreading false reports. Three of these men were convicted. In this case, as a matter of fact, the census was a mere handle made use of by the different factions in the village, and the census itself was not the real cause of their refusal to work.

77. The Raniganj officer reports that no expenditure was incurred by, or on behalf of, the agency employed. In Katwa the average amount expended on pen, ink, paper, &c., and a light on the census night, averages annas 4 per enumerator.

78. The Subdivisional Officer of Kalna reports that the supervisors must have incurred some expenditure upon travelling allowance, and thinks that those of the wealthier classes who travelled in *palkis* must have expended at least Rs. 10.

79. In the Sadar no expenditure has been incurred by, and no money was paid to, any enumerator. With supervisors the case was different, but the strict rule has been that only really necessary expenses actually incurred are to be refunded. Travelling allowance has been granted only in one exceptional case, in which no intelligent man could be found to act as supervisor. The circle was a long narrow strip in Burdwan *thana* by the Damodar river, inhabited by very poor people, and it was necessary to appoint a resident of the town of Burdwan to look after the census in that circle. A fair specimen of supervisor's bill for 500 houses submitted and passed would be—

	As.	P.
Paper for rough copies	4	0
Tar for numbering	7	0
Pen, ink, red ink, light on February 26th ...	3	0
	14	0

On the other hand, many utterly exorbitant bills, amounting to more than Rs. 40, have been sent in. One supervisor applied for payment of Rs. 39 for three months' supervision; others, more moderate, apply simply for remuneration. Such amounts have of course never been expended, and are mere attempts to make something out of the census.

No paid census officers were employed in the district.

Attitude of the people.

80. The Raniganj officer reports that the prevalent idea amongst the agricultural classes was that some new tax was to be imposed, but this idea was easily dispelled. In the collieries some of the Sonthals and Koras had the idea that they were to be sent to Assam as coolies.

81. In Kalna, when the houses were being numbered, the people thought it was the prelude to a new tax, but this idea disappeared when the real object became known.

82. In Katwa, owing to the minuteness with which column 11 had to be filled up, there were rumours that traders were to be taxed, and that some legislation would take place with reference to land tenures.

83. In Sadar the attitude of the people generally was one of indifference. Reports were of course current that a tax of some sort would be imposed, but this never really caught hold of the people; it was a mere rumour—not a fixed idea—and was easily dispelled by the travelling census office.

The result.

84. In Raniganj subdivision, Asansol, which is the most westerly *thana*, shows an increase of from 98,842 persons in 1881 to 127,341 in the present year. This is attributed to the expansion of mining industry; the coolies flock in from Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas, and in consequence the increase in males is more noticeable than in females.

85. Raniganj *thana* shows an increase of 1,179, roughly about ·80 per cent., which is owing to the expansion of mining industry.

86. In *thana* Kaksa the population has decreased from 38,787 to 34,968. This *thana* is purely an agricultural tract, and the Raniganj officer states that disease has been rife there of late years. The remarks of the late Magistrate, Mr. Oldham, as to this *thana*, when he was investigating the condition of the poorer classes in 1888, may well be quoted. He says:—"I had with me the enumerators who had taken the census of 1881, and examined their method, and was satisfied of their care and accuracy. In 1881, the Kaksa area had 1,120 houses with 5,655 people. In my census 693 houses with 3,730 people were counted. The decrease is attributed to the malaria which in the west of the district was most violent in the years 1881 to 1887. The ruined houses and abandoned sites were everywhere visible. The people's physique was poor and fever-stricken, and throughout the district they presented the same appearance. In fact the sickly physique is the ordinary physique, and commanded the ordinary labour rates; the healthy physique is the exceptional one and commands special and very high rates." This quotation is in reference to a census which Mr. Oldham took at the end of 1887 or beginning of 1888 of the village of Kaksa, and which he compares to the 1881 census for the same place. The words "the people's physique was poor and fever-stricken, and throughout the district they presented the same appearance," go far to explain the decrease throughout the whole district which this census actually shows.

87. The officer of Katwa subdivision is of opinion that, so far as accuracy is concerned, the census has been satisfactory, and there is internal evidence of its correctness. The officer does not discuss *thana* by *thana*, but there is a decrease for the whole subdivision of from 232,507 to 230,227 between 1881 and 1891. He gives no explanation whatever of this, but the cause is not, I think, far to seek. The density of population is nearly 654 per square mile, the occupation of the people is purely agricultural, and it seems that the land supports as many people as it is capable of doing. In this subdivision I should expect a further decrease rather than an increase in the future, as a scarcity of food,

or an epidemic of cholera or fever would cause such havoc amongst these upon the bare margin of subsistence, that the subdivision could not recover itself in ten years. In Kalna there is one *thana*—Manteshwar—which shows a slight increase; in Kalna and Purbasthali *thanas* there is a decrease. In 1881 the number of persons per square mile in Manteshwar, Kalna, and Purbasthali was 366, 642, and 707, respectively. These figures, I think, fully explain the increase and decrease of population. This subdivision is also purely agricultural, and the Subdivisional Officer states that the decrease in the two *thanas* is due to epidemics of cholera and fever, an explanation which is no doubt perfectly correct. In the Sadar, the town of Burdwan, with a population of 34,477 persons, shows an increase of 397. The only *thana* to show any increase is that of Burdwan of about 9,000. The other three *thanas* in the south and the two in the east all show a decrease, the greatest being in Satgachia, viz. 3,300. The two western *thanas*, Bood-Bood and Ausgram, show comparatively a large decrease, viz., 13,374 and 10,323 respectively. The number of persons to the square mile ten years ago was 515; and in a tract of country so thickly populated, where agriculture is practically the only pursuit, where there are neither mines, mills, nor any such labour-attracting industries, it must happen that a very large population of people are living on the bare margin of subsistence; a bad season, one or two bad epidemics of fever ravages, takes many years of prosperity to recover from. The malarious fever for which this district unfortunately is so celebrated shows no signs yet of leaving, though it is worthy of mark that in 1881 it was supposed to be moving westwards, and it is precisely the western *thanas* which have suffered the heaviest losses; in fact the remarks on the Burdwan fever in the census report of 1881 appear to be just as applicable now as then. The greater part of Ausgram is jungle in which little paddy can be grown, there deserted villages and ruined huts are not uncommon, and the remarks made with reference to *thana* Kaksa in the Raniganj subdivision, on which Ausgram borders, would apply also to the latter *thana*. The results of the census for the whole district are, I think, precisely what its past history and existing circumstances would have led us to expect—a large increase in Asansol, in which the Chota Nagpur Railway and the new industries attract labour freely; a stationary condition in Raniganj, where its industrial and agricultural conditions are much the same as they were ten years ago; and a decrease in the rest of the district, where every available inch of land has been under cultivation for years, where the feeble and diseased are the rule, healthy and able-bodied the exception. These causes produce a race equally unable to stand against a bad season or the ravages of disease. In short, I have every reason to think the results of the present census in this district are as correct as the results of any census ever could be in the present state of things, and from the evidence it would appear that a high degree of accuracy has been attained.

88. The district of Burdwan has 8,849 blocks, and the population is 1,391,880. For the abstraction of those blocks and the population, the following abstraction sheets and the daily task mentioned against each, were prescribed by the Census Superintendent of Bengal:—

Abstraction sheet Nos. I and VII	...	...	1,666
Ditto No. II	...	...	2,500
Ditto No. III	...	...	1,250
Ditto No. IV	...	...	2,500
Ditto No. V	...	...	5,000
Ditto No. VI	...	...	5,000
Ditto No. X	...	...	1,666
Ditto No. XI	...	...	1,250

In order to abstract the above population in the sheets mentioned, about 72 abstractors and readers and 11 room-supervisors were sanctioned in the Census Superintendent's Circular No 67, dated 11th May 1891. The establishment was sanctioned with the view of abstracting 120,000 population in full eight days of six hours 1 in cyclical order, as required by the Census Superintendent's Circular No. 42 of 23rd February 1891. The office, however, did not succeed in getting the required number of abstractors until the 13th May 1891. Before the 13th May 1891, a few abstractors were entertained to abstract the population of *thanas* Burdwan, Bood-Bood, Ausgram, Sahibganj, Satgachia, and Raona; but on examination the work done by them was found totally inaccurate and useless, and for correction and revision of that work a separate department, consisting of two room-supervisors, one assistant record-keeper, and some abstractors and a Deputy Inspector, was entertained from 18th May 1891 to 2nd September 1891. Although this department was kept up for a few months under the Census Superintendent's special sanction, the abstractors employed for the purpose could do very little to make the abstracted sheets fit for tabulation. The only cause of such bad work may be attributed to (1) frequent absence and change of abstractors on account of illness, (2) want of a sufficient number of competent men to maintain the cyclical order of work, and (3) to heavy tasks prescribed by the Census Superintendent.

89. As regards the abstraction of population of other *thanas* and towns, the cyclical system was enforced from the 14th May 1891, when the number of abstractors required to form three gangs was obtained, though most of them were entirely unfit and worthless, as the work done by them, on examination by means of test-slips, was found very inaccurate. Though the work done during the first and second cycles was found inaccurate in sheets other than I,

that done in the third cycle indicated much improvement, and it was hoped that the abstraction work would be completed within the period prescribed in the Census Superintendent's Circular No. 76 of the 9th June 1891; but unfortunately from this time, a large number of the abstractors began to suffer from malarious fever, and the work began to fall into arrears. New men had to be admitted in large numbers, but they also began to fall ill. The stock of forms was also exhausted, and the work to a certain extent was delayed on this account; but the chief cause of the delay and the failure was the ill-health and the consequent absence of the clerks. The state of things being reported to the Census Superintendent, he ordered the papers to be sent to Howrah, and the work was finished in that district.

90. The greatest credit is due to Mr. J. H. Temple for the careful work and the great industry he has shown in the census work. He deserves special notice for both zeal and energy, this at a time when his examination was pending. I of course have had little or nothing to do with the operations. They were so far advanced when I joined the district that I was especially requested not to interfere with them. Mr. Bell also did good work, but the brunt of the work including the writing of this report was borne by Mr. Temple, who supervised the district work generally, and I trust that some encouragement may be given to him to lend the same energy and ability to the other work of an assistant which he is practically taking up for the first time. With the exception of Katwa the Subdivisional Officers did good and careful work, and the district census generally was well and cheerfully done. I can only claim the credit of looking on. The real work was begun before I came and carried to a finish by Mr. Temple.

APPENDIX.

Statement A, showing the comparative statistics of Schools and Pupils in the district of Burdwan from 1872 *to* 1891.

Class of Schools.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Secondary Education.																				
High English Schools.																				
No. of schools	11	9	9	8	10	9	10	11	12	12	11	10	11	9	9	10	11	14	14	13
No. of scholars	1,280	1,202	1,174	1,161	1,453	1,432	1,381	1,545	1,848	1,798	1,693	1,832	1,906	1,697	1,829	2,031	2,452	3,002	2,727	2,674
Middle English Schools.																				
No. of schools	36	44	42	45	40	44	45	43	33	35	36	29	36	44	48	52	52	57	60	69
No. of scholars	1,528	1,887	1,874	2,086	1,878	2,086	1,940	2,124	1,792	1,618	1,753	1,553	2,227	2,748	3,141	3,516	3,463	3,526	3,738	4,322
Middle Vernacular Schools.																				
No. of schools	30	45	39	77	83	65	47	45	35	37	38	46	47	57	62	52	59	63	64	64
No. of scholars	1,287	1,864	1,808	3,404	3,651	3,108	2,260	2,145	1,771	1,766	1,721	2,263	2,308	2,946	3,274	2,777	3,176	3,292	3,161	3,185
Primary Education.																				
Primary Schools.																				
No. of schools	235	1,233	641	561	567	1,164	1,192	1,518	1,178	1,352	1,234	1,579	1,594	1,552	1,322	1,392	1,427	1,281	1,335	1,324
No. of scholars	7,048	27,863	21,552	18,865	19,751	33,864	37,355	43,535	36,019	41,024	37,028	42,372	40,621	42,341	39,855	40,737	41,533	35,267	35,717	35,461
Female Education.																				
Girls' Schools.																				
No. of schools	10	11	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	15	18	10	14	24	21	24	22	19	18	19
No. of scholars	217	247	291	296	294	278	256	257	255	400	441	290	383	504	541	577	565	517	477	482
Schools for Special Education.																				
Training Schools.																				
No. of schools ...		1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. of scholars ...		66	27	27	15	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
School of Arts.																				
No. of schools		...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. of scholars		...	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guru-training Classes.																				
No. of schools ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	1	2
No. of scholars ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	11	...	5	9
Private Sch[illegible].																				
No. of schools ...CIE ...		...	1	2	6	...	...	...	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	52	134	51	80	113
No. of scholars ...DIN ...		...	57	48	123	...	...	...	...	362	...	...	...	...	...	380	835	371	587	754

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B, showing the Schools and Pupils for the three census years, viz., 1872, 1881, *and* 1891.

Class of Schools.	1872.		1881.		1891.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
ng 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
High scho ols	11	1,487	12	1,798	13	2,674
Middle En glish	39	2,048	35	1,618	69	4,322
„ Ve rnacular	31	1,575	37	1,766	64	3,185
Primary	210	7,231	1,352	41,024	1,324	35,461
Training	1	73	...	...	...	...
Girls'	9	216	15	400	19	482
Madrassas	...	...	7	44	...	...
Tols	...	...	47	318	...	...
Private	...	...	...	...	113	754

Statement C, showing the Results of University and Departmental Examinations for the census years 1872, 1881, *and* 1891.

Names of Examinations.	1872.		1881.		1891.	
	Number appeared.	Number passed.	Number appeared.	Number passed.	Number appeared.	Number passed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
First Examination in Arts	...	...	...	...	74	37
Entrance	46	12	57	26	132	61
Middle English	142	41	66	39	164	92
Upper primary	...	...	284	248	431	198
Lower „	...	...	1,452	758	1,662	793
Middle Vernacular	221	115	140	73	241	152

Statement D, showing the Religion of Pupils in all classes of schools for the three periods, viz., 1876—80, 1881—85, *and* 1890-91.

Class of Schools.	1876—80, average per annum.							1881—85, average per annum.							1890-91, average per annum.						
	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Aborigines.	Others, including Native Christians.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Aborigines.	Others, including Native Christians.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Aborigines.	Others, including Native Christians.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
High English ...	10	1,531	1,470	54	...	...	7	10	1,785	1,709	68	4	...	4	13	2,674		138	...	...	...
Middle „ ...	41	1,964	1,863	101	...	...	...	36	1,979	1,869	89	20	...	1	69	4,322	2,53	[illegible]	...	...	...
Middle Vernacular	55	2,587	2,497	89	...	...	1	45	2,201	2,071	130	...	...	...	64	3,185	4,094	[illegible]	...	...	...
Primary	1,124	34,105	30,874	3,226	...	2	3	1,462	40,677	35,494	5,176	1	...	6	1,324	35,461	3,013	172	...	...	...
Girls'	11	268	221	...	45	...	2	17	422	418	3	7	...	4	19	482	29,525	5,825	...	91	20
Training	1	14	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	466	9	...	...	7
Guru-training ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	9	..	...	...	...	...
Private	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	754	9	...	...	...	...
																	526	228	...	...	...

Statement E, showing the Return of Occupation of Parents or Guardians of Pupils in the schools in the [illegible]rdwan district during the year 1886-87.

Class of Schools.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March.	Richer classes of society (yearly income above Rs. 5,000).	Middle classes of society (yearly income from Rs. 200 to Rs. 5,000).						Poorer classes of s[illegible] income not exce[illegible]				[illegible]ty (yearly [illegible]g Rs. 200).			Grand Total.
				Government service.	Private service.	Estates.	Professions.	Trades.	Total.	Service.	Agriculture.	Trades.	Skilled labour.	[illegible]rapus.	[illegible]	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	[illegible]	18
Schools for General Education.																	
For boys—																	
High English ... ... { Government ...	1	244	17	57	38	34	35	32	196	5	24	2	...	...	...	31	244
{ Aided	5	724	28	46	99	90	90	74	399	77	103	64	6	3	44	297	724
{ Unaided ...	4	1,063	30	140	168	117	62	112	589	136	169	71	26	20	22	444	1,063
Middle „ ... { Aided	39	2,708	41	77	399	403	142	238	1,349	237	814	144	52	38	33	1,318	2,708
{ Unaided	13	808	1	13	65	99	68	45	289	77	330	57	20	25	18	527	808
Middle vernacular ... { Aided	43	2,204	13	34	111	311	99	96	651	272	945	172	64	30	57	1,540	2,204
{ Unaided ...	3	192	...	...	13	21	10	8	52	25	76	21	...	...	18	140	192
{ Government ...	6	381	11	11	32	41	13	15	112	79	143	27	3	4	2	258	381
Upper primary ... { Aided	124	4,776	13	90	204	443	173	201	1,111	440	2,594	389	83	96	50	3,652	4,776
{ Unaided ...	3	87	...	...	...	1	2	...	3	12	61	9	...	...	2	84	87
Lower „ ... { Aided	1,233	35,304	39	361	1,345	1,930	969	2,194	6,799	1,983	20,911	2,793	725	1,118	936	28,466	35,304
{ Unaided ...	32	570	...	2	21	15	3	23	64	36	352	19	40	32	27	506	570
For girls—																	
Upper primary ... { Aided	11	318	5	14	63	40	17	31	165	36	41	40	12	10	9	148	318
{ Unaided ...	1	14	...	...	2	3	...	...	5	3	6	...	...	...	...	9	14
Lower „ ... { Aided	9	128	1	14	15	9	12	9	59	11	23	26	2	..	6	68	128
{ Unaided ...	3	117	9	14	15	6	7	1	43	20	2	21	5	...	17	65	117
Training school for masters { Government ...	3	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	9	
{ Aided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Private institutions—																	
Advanced, teaching—																	
(*a*) Sanskrit	52	330	2	...	...	12	171	20	203	25	80	20	...	...	...	125	330
Total ...	1,585	49,977	210	873	2,580	3,665	1,863	3,099	12,080	3,483	26,674	3,875	1,038	1,376	1,241	37,687	49,977

Statement F, showing the Caste and Creed of Pupils in the schools in the Burdwan district for the year 1886-87.

Class of Schools.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils on the rolls on 31st March.	Hindus. (1) Brahmans, Rajputs, Baidyas, Kayasthas, and Babhans.	(2) Navasakhas.	(3) Sonarbanias, carpenters, goldsmiths, and other intermediate castes.	(4) Doms, Chamars, Haris, Pods, &c.	Total.	Musulmans.	Christians. Europeans and Eurasians.	Native Christians (other than aborigines).	Total.	Aboriginal races. Christians.	Non-Christians.	Total.	Others—Sikhs, Parsis, Buddhists, &c.	Grand total of all races.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Schools for General Education.																	
For boys—																	
High schools (Government.)	1	244	145	65	8	...	218	25	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	244	
High schools (Aided)	5	724	482	171	58	...	711	12	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	724	
High schools (Unaided)	4	1,063	765	113	138	4	1,020	40	...	1	1	...	2	2	...	1,063	
Middle (Aided)	39	2,708	1,580	729	252	26	2,587	121	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,708	
Middle (Unaided)	13	808	365	328	88	14	795	11	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	808	
Vernacular (Government.)	6	381	200	136	29	1	366	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	381	
Vernacular (Aided)	43	2,204	983	762	276	65	2,086	118	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,204	
Vernacular (Unaided)	3	192	68	85	21	6	180	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	192	
Upper primary (Aided)	124	4,776	1,725	1,953	515	190	4,383	392	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	4,776	
Upper primary (Unaided)	3	87	31	52	...	...	83	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87	
Lower primary (Aided)	1,233	35,304	8,993	13,171	6,205	1,536	29,905	5,393	...	5	5	...	1	1	...	35,304	
Lower primary (Unaided)	32	570	100	224	87	72	483	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	570	
For girls—																	
Upper primary (Aided)	11	318	179	81	38	9	307	...	8	3	11	...	...	...	...	318	
Upper primary (Unaided)	1	14	5	9	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	
Lower primary (Aided)	9	128	46	45	32	...	123	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...	128	
Lower primary (Unaided)	3	117	85	11	8	...	104	10	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	117	
Guru-training classes for masters—Government.	3	9	4	5	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	
Aided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Private institutions— Advanced teaching—(*a*) Sanskrit.	52	330	330	...	...	...	330	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	330	
Total ...	1,585	49,977	16,086	17,940	7,755	1,923	43,704	6,240	8	20	28	...	5	5	...	49,977	

Kalna

Statement No. I, showing the Social Position of the Scholars in the district of Burdwan for Secondary and Primary Education in 1887, *according to the occupations and incomes of the guardians.*

Class of Schools.	Names of Circles.	Population of the circle.	School-going population of the circle.	Schools.	Pupils.	Percentage of pupils at school on total school-going population.	Richer class. Number.	Richer class. Percentage.	Middle class. Number.	Middle class. Percentage.	Poorer class. Number.	Poorer class. Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
English Education.	*High English Schools.*											
	Sadar	244,139	36,621	2	864	2·3	44	5·5	579	67·0	241	28·0
	Raona	223,042	33,456	1	183	·5	3	1·6	110	60·1	70	38·2
	Mankar	152,687	22,903	1	114	·5	4	3·5	86	75·4	24	21·1
	Kalna	237,607	35,641	3	456	1·3	...	...	200	43·8	256	56·8
	Katwa	230,110	34,516	1	145	·5	17	11·7	105	72·4	23	15·8
	Raniganj	284,414	42,662	2	269	·6	7	2·7	104	38·6	158	58·7
	Total for High English Schools ...	1,371,999	205,799	10	2,031	·9	75	3·7	1,184	58·3	772	38·0
	Middle English Schools.											
	Sadar	244,139	36,621	13	996	2·7	...	...	337	33·8	659	66·2
	Raona	223,042	33,456	9	500	1·5	5	1·0	289	55·8	206	41·0
	Mankar	152,687	22,903	6	284	1·2	4	1·4	119	41·9	161	56·7
	Kalna	237,607	35,641	11	665	1·8	12	1·8	308	46·3	345	51·9
	Katwa	230,110	34,516	5	454	1·3	10	2·2	274	60·3	170	37·4
	Raniganj	284,414	42,662	8	617	1·4	11	1·8	302	48·9	304	49·3
	Total for Middle English Schools ...	1,371,999	205,799	52	3,516	1·7	42	1·1	1,629	46·3	1,845	52·5
	Total of schools for English education.	...	...	62	5,547	1·3	117	2·1	2,813	50·3	2,617	47·1
Vernacular Education.	*Middle Vernacular Schools.*											
	Sadar	244,139	36,621	10	544	1·4	1	·2	183	33·6	360	66·2
	Raona	223,042	33,456	12	581	1·7	5	·9	199	34·2	377	64·9
	Mankar	152,687	22,903	4	249	1·0	...	...	54	21·7	195	78·3
	Kalna	237,607	35,641	13	702	·2	8	1·1	185	26·3	509	72·5
	Katwa	230,110	34,516	9	550	1·6	5	·9	157	28·6	388	70·5
	Raniganj	284,414	42,662	4	151	·3	5	3·3	37	24·5	109	72·2
	Total for Middle Vernacular Schools	1,371,999	205,799	52	2,777	1·3	24	·8	815	29·3	1,938	69·8
	Primary Schools, including Girls' schools.											
	Sadar	244,139	36,621	266	6,912	18·8	9	·1	1,962	28·4	4,941	71·5
	Raona	223,042	33,456	339	9,051	27·5	15	·1	554	6·1	8,482	93·8
	Mankar	152,687	22,903	146	3,773	16·4	7	·2	285	7·6	3,481	92·2
	Kalna	237,607	35,641	304	11,857	33·2	22	·2	4,425	37·3	7,410	62·5
	Katwa	230,110	34,516	170	48,880	14·1	14	·3	926	18·9	3,940	80·8
	Raniganj	284,414	42,662	191	4,844	11·3	...	...	97	2·0	4,744	98·0
	Total for Primary Schools ...	1,371,999	205,799	1,416	41,314	20·7	67	·1	8,249	19·9	32,998	79·8
	Total of schools for vernacular education.	...	...	1,468	44,091	10·7	91	·2	9,064	20·5	34,936	79·1

Statement No. II, showing the Castes of Pupils in the schools for Secondary and Primary Education in the district of Burdwan in 1887.

Names of Circles.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Brahmans, &c.,		Navasakhas.		Carpenters, &c.		Chamars, &c.		Total.		Musulmans.		Christians.		Aborigines.		Total.	
			Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
High Schools.																				
Sadar Circle ...	2	864	650	75·2	69	8·0	82	9·5	4	·4	805	93·1	57	6·6	2	·2	...	...	864	...
Raona ,, ...	1	183	136	74·3	26	14·2	15	8·2	...	...	177	96·8	6	3·2	...	...	...	...	183	...
Mankar ,, ...	1	114	79	69·3	33	28·9	...	...	...	...	112	98·2	2	1·8	...	...	...	...	114	...
Kalna ,, ...	3	456	265	58·1	108	23·8	75	16·4	...	...	448	98·3	7	1·5	1	·2	...	...	456	...
Katwa ,, ...	1	145	106	73·1	29	20·0	9	6·2	...	...	144	99·3	1	·7	...	...	...	...	145	...
Raniganj ,, ...	2	269	156	57·9	84	31·2	23	8·6	...	...	263	97·7	4	1·5	...	...	2	·8	269	...
Total of High Schools.	10	2,031	1,392	68·5	349	17·1	204	10·0	4	·2	1,949	95·9	77	3·8	3	·2	2	·1	2,031	...
Middle English Schools.																				
Sadar Circle ...	13	996	413	41·5	330	33·1	195	19·6	5	·5	943	94·7	53	5·3	...	...	...	...	996	...
Raona ,, ...	9	500	279	55·8	166	33·2	23	4·6	10	2·0	478	95·6	22	4·4	...	...	...	...	500	...
Mankar ,, ...	6	284	112	39·4	142	50·0	19	6·7	5	1·8	278	97·9	6	2·1	...	...	...	...	284	...
Kalna ,, ...	11	665	396	59·6	199	29·9	47	7·1	9	1·3	651	97·9	14	2·1	...	...	...	...	665	...
Katwa ,, ...	5	454	286	62·9	105	23·1	35	7·7	2	·4	428	94·2	26	5·8	...	...	...	...		
Raniganj ,, ...	8	617	459	74·4	115	18·6	21	3·4	9	1·4	604	97·9	11	1·8	...	...	2	...		
Total for Middle English Schools.	52	3,516	1,945	55·3	1,057	30·0	340	9·7	40	1·1	3,382	96·1	132	3·8	...	...	2	...		
Total of schools for English education.	62	5,547	3,337	60·1	1,406	25·3	544	9·8	44	·8	5,331	96·1	209	3·7	3	·1	4	...		
Middle Vernacular Schools.																				
Sadar Circle ...	10	544	141	25·9	268	49·2	106	19·5	12	2·2	527	96·8	17	3·1	...	...	...	...		
Raona ,, ...	12	581	279	48·0	242	41·6	28	4·8	7	1·2	556	95·7	25	4·3	...	...	...	...		
Mankar ,, ...	4	249	148	59·4	50	20·0	22	8·8	8	3·2	228	91·5	21	8·5	...	...	...	...		
Kalna ,, ...	13	702	286	40·7	222	31·6	110	15·7	28	4·0	646	92·0	56	7·9	...	...	...	...		
Katwa ,, ...	9	550	296	53·8	185	33·6	39	7·0	5	·9	525	95·4	25	4·5	...	...	...	...		
Raniganj ,, ...	4	151	101	66·9	16	10·6	21	13·9	12	7·9	150	99·3	1	·6	...	...	...	...		
Total for Middle Vernacular Schools.	52	2,777	1,251	45·0	983	35·4	326	11·7	72	2·6	2,632	94·7	145	5·2	...	...	...	...	2,777	...
Primary Schools, including Girls' Schools.																				
Sadar Circle ...	266	6,912	1,430	20·6	2,669	38·6	1,307	20·2	465	6·7	5,961	86·1	937	13·6	14	·2	...	...	6,912	...
Raona ,, ...	339	9,051	2,734	30·2	3,293	36·3	747	8·2	411	4·5	7,185	79·3	1,866	20·6	...	...	...	...	9,051	...
Mankar ,, ...	146	3,773	985	26·1	1,798	47·6	404	10·7	250	6·6	3,437	91·1	336	8·9	...	...	...	...	3,773	...
Kalna ,, ...	304	11,857	2,950	24·8	3,938	33·2	2,770	23·3	254	2·1	9,912	83·5	1,943	16·4	2	...	...	...	11,857	...
Katwa ,, ...	170	4,880	1,426	29·2	2,104	43·1	589	12·1	123	2·5	4,242	86·9	638	13·1	...	...	...	...	4,880	...
Raniganj ,, ...	191	4,841	1,639	33·8	1,744	36·0	978	20·2	304	6·2	4,665	96·3	166	3·4	9	·2	1	...	4,841	...
Total of primary schools, including girls' schools.	1,416	41,314	11,164	27·0	15,546	37·6	6,885	16·6	1,807	4·3	35,402	85·6	5,886	14·2	25	·1	1	...	41,314	...
Total of schools for vernacular education.	1,468	44,091	12,415	28·1	16,529	37·7	7,211	16·3	1,879	4·2	38,034	86·3	6,031	13·6	25	...	1	...	44,091	...

Statement No. III, showing the Schools and Pupils for Secondary and Primary Education in the district of Burdwan on the 31st March 1891.

Class of schools.	Names of Circles.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Christians.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	High English Schools.						
English Education.	Sadar Circle	4	1,259	1,140	119	...	...
	Raona ,, ...	1	194	193	1	...	...
	Mankar ,, ...	1	118	116	2	...	...
	Kalna ,, ...	3	451	440	11	...	...
	Katwa ,, ...	2	276	274	2	...	...
	Raniganj ,, ...	2	376	373	3	...	...
	Total ...	13	2,674	2,536	138	...	...
	Middle English Schools.						
	Sadar Circle	15	855	817	37	...	1(*a*)
	Raona ,, ...	18	1,059	938	121	...	...
	Mankar ,, ...	6	291	280	11	...	...
	[illegible] ,, ...	13	719	702	17	...	...
	[illegible] ,, ...	8	617	583	34	...	...
	[illegible]ganj ,, ...	9	781	774	7	...	...
	Total ...	69	4,322	4,094	227	...	1
	for English education ...	82	6,996	6,630	365	...	1
	[illegible]dle Vernacular Schools.						
	[illegible] Circle	12	587	569	18	...	...
	[illegible] ,, ...	12	551	519	32	...	...
	[illegible]ar ,, ...	8	385	372	13	...	...
	[illegible] ,, ...	16	785	707	78	...	...
Vernacular Education.	[illegible]atwa ,, ...	14	782	751	31	...	...
	Raniganj ,, ...	2	95	95	...	...	...
	Total ...	64	3,185	3,013	172	...	...
	Primary (including Girls' Schools).						
	Sadar Circle	254	7,096	5,760	1,339	6	1
	Raona ,, ...	301	8,747	6,864	1,883	...	...
	Mankar ,, ...	150	3,874	3,291	583	...	...
	Kalna ,, ...	234	5,393	4,151	1,224	1	17
	Katwa ,, ...	175	5,288	4,628	660	...	...
	Raniganj ,, ...	229	5,545	5,307	145	2	91(*a*)
	Total ...	1,343	35,943	29,991	5,834	9	109
	Total for Vernacular education	1,407	39,128	33,004	6,006	9	109

(*a*) Aboriginal.

Statement No. IV, showing the Schools and Pupils for Secondary and Primary Education in the district of Burdwan on the 31st March 1891.

Class of schools.	Names of Circles.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Christians.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
English Education.	*High English Schools.*						
	Sadar Circle	4	1,259	1,140	119	...	...
	Raona ,, ...	1	194	193	1	...	...
	Mankar ,, ...	1	118	116	2	...	...
	Kalna ,, ...	3	451	440	11	...	...
	Katwa ,, ...	2	276	274	2	...	...
	Raniganj ,, ...	2	376	373	3	...	...
	Total ...	13	2,674	2,536	138	...	...
	Middle English Schools.						
	Sadar Circle	15	855	817	37	...	1(*a*)
	Raona ,, ...	18	1,059	938	121	...	.
	Mankar ,, ...	6	291	280	11	...	...
	Kalna ,, ...	13	719	702	17	...	...
	Katwa ,, ...	8	617	583	34	..	
	Raniganj ,, ...	9	781	774	7	.	
	Total ...	69	4,322	4,094	227		
	Total of schools for English education.	82	6,996	6,630	365	...	
Vernacular Education.	*Middle Vernacular Schools.*						
	Sadar Circle	12	587	569	18	...	
	Raona ,, ...	12	551	519	32	...	
	Mankar ,, ...	8	385	372	13	...	
	Kalna ,, ...	16	785	707	78	...	
	Katwa ,, ...	14	782	751	31	..	
	Raniganj ,, ...	2	95	95	...	...	...
	Total ...	64	3,185	3,013	172	.	.
	Primary Schools (including Girls' Schools).						
	Sadar Circle	254	7,096	5,750	1,339	6	1
	Raona ,, ...	301	8,747	6,864	1,883	...	...
	Mankar ,, ...	150	3,874	3,291	583	...	...
	Kalna ,, ...	234	5,393	4,151	1,224	1	17
	Katwa ,, ...	175	5,288	4,628	660	...	...
	Raniganj ,, ...	229	5,545	5,307	145	2	91(*a*)
	Total ...	1,343	35,943	29 991	5,834	9	109
	Total of schools for Vernacular education.	1,407	39,128	33,004	6,006	9	109

(*a*) Aboriginal.

F. daC —Reg. No. 1146J—90—25-9-94.

DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

No. 391, dated Birbhum, the 21st March 1892.

From—T. J. C. GRANT, Esq., Magistrate of Birbhum,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

WITH reference to the Government circular, Financial Department, No. 6T.—F., dated 30th October 1891, I have the honour to forward the accompanying report on the result of the late census operations.

2. This report is the work of the District Joint-Magistrate, Mr. Umesh Chunder Batabyal, who was in immediate charge of the census operations, and who managed them with distinguished intelligence and industry. His special knowledge of, and attention to, the whole subject, entitles him to give complete expression to his own opinions, and his report is far too good to be cut about and altered and submitted as mine.

3. I, therefore, send Mr. Batabyal's report exactly as it stands, merely accompanying it with a separate note from myself, on the only subject on which I differ from Mr. Batabyal, viz., the influence of epidemic fever on the population of the district.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF BIRBHUM, 1891.

HEAD I.—EARLY HISTORY, ETC.

THE existence of Birbhum as a Hindu principality with its capital at Rajnagar, or Nagar, can be traced to the very commencement of the 13th century, for it is recorded that the Pathan conquerors of Gour, under Bakhtiyar Khilji, constructed a road (probably they only repaired an already existing road) from Deokot to Nagar in 1205 A.D. It is further recorded that Nagar, the capital of Birbhum, was sacked and plundered by the Uriyas in 1244 A.D. It would seem that in the centuries immediately preceding the Muhammadan conquest of Bengal, Birbhum was a dependency of the great kingdom of Gour. The once splendid pilgrim road from Gour to Puri in Orissa, still popularly known as the Gour Badshah Road, intersects the district of Birbhum in the south-eastern extremity, passing on to Mangalkot and thence to Burdwan. This road is believed to have been originally constructed by the kings of Gour, who were Buddhists, for purposes of pilgrimage to Puri, originally a sacred place of the Buddhists. It was afterwards repaired at the time of the Moghal emperors, though now it is in a dilapidated condition. Remains of Budhistic temples and images are still visible in many parts of the district, and it is inferred that in the earlier centuries of the Christian era, Birbhum was inhabited by a people professing the Buddhistic faith, and subject to the kings of Gour. It is still popularly spoken of as Rarha Desha, and thus seems to have been included in the province of Rarh of the kingdom of Gour.

2. The author of the Sanskrit lyric poem *Gyta Govinda* (well known to English readers through the beautiful metrical translation of Edwin Arnold), who was a native of Birbhum, composed his work about the middle of the 12th century, and we learn from that work that Vaishnavism at that time was the prevailing religion of the district. The traditions of the Rarhi Brahmans show that they migrated into the *Rarha Desha* about the middle of the 11th century; so the district seems to have been Brahmanized about that time, if not some time before.

3. To this day the bulk of the population are Hindus, of whom the lower ranks, such as the Haris, the Bagdis, the Bauris, the Mals, the Rajwars, the Doms, and the Chamars or Muchis, are of aboriginal descent, who gradually lost their distinct tribal character and their primitive speech, and under Hindu princes became absorbed in the great hierarchy of castes known as Hinduism. The earliest people of Aryan descent to settle in the district were the Gops and the Goalas (a corruption of Gopala). The Goalas became to a certain extent mixed up with the aboriginal population, and therefore not ministered to by good Brahmans. The Gops, on the other hand, were able, to a great extent, to preserve the purity of their race; and to distinguish themselves from the

Goalas (who were also Gops) they called themselves Sadgops or good Gops—good in this sense, that they were not mixed up with the children of the soil. The Sadgop had at one time a principality of their own named Gopbhum, the name of which survives as the *pargana* of that name now appertaining to the district of Burdwan, and lying between the Ajai and the Damodar rivers. They are found all over the district, of which at present they are the best and the most substantial cultivators. Their predominence is indicated by their common title of Mandal (Mondalani or Mollani in the case of females) which we know originally meant the headman of a village, or, as Manu says, "the king of a village."

4. The term "Birbhum" does not mean, as the learned author of the Annals of Rural Bengal was led to think, the land of *heroes*; it simply means the territory of the Bir Rajas, Bir being their family or tribal name. The Bir Rajas, who were Hindus, were in the early part of the 17th century supplanted by some Pathan adventurers, who afterwards obtained the principality as a *zamindari* from the Nawabs of Murshidabad. It was the largest Muhammadan estate in Bengal existing at the time of the grant of *Dewani* to the East India Company.

5. The present district is only a part of the old *zamindari* of Birbhum, the western tracts of Kundahit, Sarat Deoghar, Paboya, and Karega having been transferred to the Sonthal Parganas. In 1872, the district consisted of the following *thanas*, viz.:—(1) Suri, (2) Rajnagar, (3) Dubrajpur, (4) Kashba (now Bolpur), (5) Sakulipur, (6) Labpur, (7) Barwan, (8) Mayureshwar, with a total area of 1,344 square miles. Since then, Barwan has been transferred to Murshidabad, while the *thanas* of Rampur Hát and Nalhati, which originally formed part of this district, have been retransferred to it. The *thana* of Rajnagar has been amalgamated with that of Suri-Rajnagar, being now an outpost of Suri. The internal jurisdictions of some of the *thanas* have also undergone important changes since 1881. The total area of the district is at present 1,756 square miles, and it is bounded on the north by the district of Murshidabad, on the east partly by that district, and partly by Burdwan, on the south by Burdwan, and on the west by the Sonthal Parganas. On the western border, the district has a considerable Sonthali population, but they have mostly settled in the district in the course of the last 50 years. The Hindus and the Muhammadans are distributed all over the district.

Head II.—Movement of the Population.

6. In 1872, the population of the area forming the present district of Birbhum was 853,785, in 1881 it was 792,031, in 1891 it was found to be 797,833. The decrease in the population in 1881 was attributed to the heavy mortality from epidemic fever which invaded the district for the first time in 1871-72, and went on raging afterwards with increasing virulence. Compared with 1881, the year 1891 shows a slight increase of about ·7 per cent. on the aggregate population of the district. During this decade also, mortality from fever, especially in the southern *thanas*, was very heavy, and the district had to pass through a partial famine in 1884. Owing to these untoward circumstances, the population of the district during the last ten years has been in the aggregate almost stationary.

7. *Thana* Suri.—The fluctuations in the *thana* were as follows:—

1872	...	...	...	135,092
1881	...	...	...	126,739
1891	...	...	...	126,208

The decrease in the first of these two decades was most heavy, and was due to heavy mortality from fever. In some of the years between 1881 and 1891 also there was unusual prevalence of fever in this *thana*, which acted as a check to the natural increase of population. The tendency to further depopulation, however, appears to have been practically arrested.

8. *Thana* Dubrajpur—

1872	...	...	...	140,231
1881	...	...	...	126,566
1891	...	...	...	119,472

This is one of the most southernmost *thanas* of the district, and the other two being Bolpur and Sakulipur which border on Burdwan, and where the epidemic raged with the greatest virulence. The decrease in the first decade was 13,665, and in the second decade it was 7,094, which shows that the destructive nature of the epidemic had somewhat abated.

9. *Thana* Bolpur—

1872	...	...	...	132,039
1881	...	...	...	107,893
1891	...	...	...	98,781

This *thana*, situated on east of Dubrajpur, suffered even more than the latter. The decrease in the first decade was 24,146, in the second 9,112. Here also the virulence of the epidemic is abating.

10. *Thana* Sakulipur.—The population of the present area of Sakulipur in 1872 cannot be given, as its boundaries since then have undergone changes. The figures for 1881 and 1891 stand thus:—

1881	...	...	...	74,683
1891	..	...	...	68,145

This *thana* is known to have suffered quite as heavily, if not more than Bolpur. Here the epidemic first struck the district in its progress northwards and westwards. During the past ten years the percentage of decrease in *thana* Suri (the westernmost of the southern *thanas*) was ·4; in *thana* Dubrajpur (which occupies a more eastern position) it was 5 nearly; in Bolpur (which lies still further to the east) it was 8 nearly; while in Sakulipur lying in the extreme south-east, it was 9 nearly.

Thana Suri is neither so south nor does it go so far to the west as Dubrajpur.
T. GRANT,
Magistrate.

11. *Thana* Labpur.—Here also the figures for 1872 cannot be given, as the boundary of the *thana* has undergone material changes. The figures for 1881 and 1891 stand thus:—

1881	...	...	...	52,951
1891	...	...	...	57,623

Thus, as we go towards the north we find increase. The increase here was nearly 9 per cent., which can be attributed to nothing else but natural expansion.

12. *Thana* Mayureshwar.—Owing to changes of jurisdiction the figures for 1872 cannot be given. The fluctuations in the last ten years were as follows:—

1881	...	...	...	81,528
1891	...	...	...	86,428

This *thana* lies still further north, and here the rate of increase (due also to natural expansion) was 6 per cent. nearly. The western portion of the *thana* is rugged and jungly, and contains much waste land not fit for cultivation. The rate of increase, therefore, is not so great as in the case of Labpur.

13. *Thana* Rampur Hát—

1872	...	...	...	93,392*
1881	...	...	...	87,774
1891	...	...	...	93,434

This *thana* represents the northernmost point to which the outbreak of epidemic fever spread. Here its force was the weakest, and the population, as in Labpur and Mayureshwar, is again reviving. The rate of increase in the past ten years was 6 nearly, the same as in the case of Mayureshwar, which it resembles in physical features.

14. *Thana* Nalhati—

1872	...	...	...	107,576†
1881	...	...	...	133,897
1891	...	...	...	147,742

This is the only *thana* in the district where the population has been continually progressive during the two last decades. It comprises the northernmost part of the district where the fever epidemic did not extend, at least in a virulent form. It is the only part of the district where the *rabi* crops are grown in any considerable extent. The land is rich, and it is served by a double line of railway—the loop line of the E. I. Railway and the Nalhati State Railway. The rate of increase is 10 per cent. nearly, due to natural causes.

15. *Growth of towns since* 1872.—There has been no such growth. The district has only two towns with a population exceeding 5,000 inhabitants, viz., Suri, the head-quarters of the district, and Murgram in the Rampur Hát subdivision. The figures for these two places stand as follow:—

	1872.	1881.	1891.
Suri	9,001	7,848	7,481
Murgram ...	5,776	6,008	6,422

Suri, which is the only municipality in the district, was shorn of the village of Tilpara in 1880, and this partly accounts for the decrease in 1881. Suri is in the *thana* of that name, and Murgram in *thana* Rampur Hát. They share in the general increase or decrease in the population of their respective *thanas*.

16. The population is entirely rural. The so-called towns are merely populous villages. There is no distinction between the urban and rural population.

17. The statistics of birthplaces show that out of the total population of 797,833 persons, 751,200, or 94 per cent. nearly, were born in the district; 14,276, or about 1·8 per cent., were born in the Sonthal Parganas; 12,394, or about 1·5 per cent., were born in Murshidabad; and 11,798, or about 1·4 per cent., were born in Burdwan. Only 8,165 persons, or a little over 1 per cent., were born in places in any way remote from the district. Of these last, 2,347 males

* A comparison with 1872 cannot be really made. Between 1872 and 1881 a great many villages were transferred from Rampur Hát to Nalhati. Therefore, the census of 1881 gave Nalhati an unfairly increased population, and unfairly decreased that of Rampur Hát.

† Please see my note against *thana* Rampur Hát. The increase of Nalhati in 1881 is not genuine, and not worth taking notice of.

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Magistrate.

and 824 females, or a total of 3,171 persons, were born in the Bihar districts. The details are given below:—

Districts.		Male.	Female.	Total.
Gaya	...	249	151	400
Patna	...	204	125	329
Shahabad	...	966	338	1,304
Saran	...	124	13	137
Monghyr	...	270	...	270
Bhagalpur	...	349	154	503
Champaran	...	47	20	67
Darbhanga	...	58	2	60
Muzaffarpur	...	80	21	101
		2,347	824	3,171

These figures show very little immigration into the district. The Bihar people who are found in the district are for the most part either petty traders, police constables, jail warders, *zamindars nagdis* or domestic servants.

18. The Sonthali population of the district, however, is growing. It is to be borne in mind that this population is confined to the western border of the district, and they are not distributed all over the district like the Bengali population. The relative proportion of the persons who were born in the Sonthal Parganas therefore is great. The Sonthals came to the district both in search of land and in search of employment as agricultural labourers.

19. In 1881, only 14,172 persons were returned as Sonthals by religion. In 1891, the number thus returned is 34,184. This shows a remarkable increase. But I think many Sonthals were returned as Hindus both in 1881 and 1891, though in the latter year the proportion of such erroneous entry was smaller. That such is really the case is shown by the statistics of parent tongue. The Sonthali-speaking population in 1891 has been returned as 42,345. All these persons must be Sonthals; but, as shown above, only 34,184 persons have been returned as Sonthals by religion. The conclusion is inevitable that many Sonthals have been shown as Hindus.

20. There are no mining centres in the district.

Head III.—Varying density of the population.

21. The figures for 1872 cannot be given for all the *thanas* owing to changes in the internal boundaries of some of the *thanas* since 1881. Where such figures have been given they have been worked out from the census pamphlet, giving comparative figures for 1881 and 1872.

22. The following figures show the population per square mile in each of the *thanas*:—

Thanas.		1872.	1881.	1891.
Suri ...	...	434·37	407·52	405·81
Dubrajpur	...	509·93	460·24	434·48
Bolpur ...	...	513·77	419·28	384·36
Sakulipur	...	...	504·61	460·44
Labpur ...	...	...	452·57	493·50
Rampur Hát	...	...	469·03	500·79
Mayureshwar	...	...	448·66	475·72
Nalhati ...	...	389·76	485·13	535·29

Nalhati, which shows the greatest density, is most favourably situated in respect of soil and means of communication. The land in the eastern part of the *thana* is level and rich, and it has enjoyed greater immunity from fever than any other *thana*. There is a silk factory at Bhadrapur in this *thana*, and several places in the *thana* have important industries in bell-metal manufactures. Next to Nalhati comes Rampur Hát, the physical conditions of which much resemble those of Nalhati, and which has some important centres of silk trade at Bashya, Bishtupur, and Murgram. The third in point of density is Labpur, which has on its border the great silk factory at Ganutia, affording employment to some thousands of its population. The eastern part of this *thana* is also level, and is better suited to cultivation. *Thana* Sakulipur, which now stands fourth in point of density, was at one time the most populous *thana* in the district. The tract bordering the Ajai river and that on either side of the old pilgrim road, is full of old tanks and structural remains, showing that it was at one time the most advanced part of the district. The ground throughout the *thana* is level and the soil is rich. But unfortunately it has suffered heavily from fever during the last two decades, and its population has declined in consequence. The same cause has operated to lessen the population in *thanas* Bolpur and Dubrajpur, the former of which suffered most during the earlier part of the outbreak. The portions of these *thanas* situated on the Ajai were at one time very populous. The lac and indigo industries, which formerly flourished in this tract, have now declined, and a portion of the labouring classes has been attracted, it is believed, by the coal-fields of Raniganj. Generally speaking, the density of the district population decreases towards the west, where the ground is rolling and large tracts are unfit for cultivation, and increases towards the east, where

land is level and more fit for cultivation; and as agriculture is the main occupation of the people, the eastern part of the district is, by nature, fitted to be more populous than the western part. Leaving out, therefore, the exceptional case of Bolpur, we reach the lowest density in *thana* Suri, which borders on the Sonthal Parganas on the south-west, and which for the most part presents a rolling surface; and the greatest density in *thanas* adjoining the alluvial tracts of the Murshidabad district on the north-east.

Head IV.—Religion.

23. Of the total population of 797,833 souls, 593,179, or 74·34 per cent., have been returned as Hindus; 169,752, or 21·28 per cent., as Musalmans; and 34,184, or 4·28 per cent., as Sonthals. These three religions, therefore, together claim 99·91 per cent. of the population. The other religions and the number of their followers are these:—

Religion.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1	2	3	4
Christian	281	241	522
Buddhist	5	...	5
Jain	46	20	66
Brahmo	8	10	18
Nanakpanthi	2	...	2
Paharia	14	...	14
Kol	18	17	35
Uraon	24	32	56
Total ...	398	320	718

24. *Hindus*—

1881	...	612,015
1891	...	593,179

The decrease comes to 24,131, and I think is due chiefly to the inclusion of Sonthals in the category of Hindus in the former census.

25. *Musalmans*—

1881	...	165,519
1891	...	169,752

This shows an increase of 7·13. There is one class of people in the district, namely, the *Mals*, about whom doubt is felt whether they should be classed as Hindus or as Muhammadans. In some places they were classed as Hindus, in others as Muhammadans. It is difficult to say how far this increase is due to the inclusion or exclusion of this debatable land between the two creeds.

26. *Sonthals*—

1881	...	14,172
1891	...	34,184

The increase is mostly due to more correct classification. But the true number of Sonthals is larger even than the figures of 1891. The statistics of parent tongue show the number of Sonthals in the district as 42,345, and it is clear, therefore, that some of the Sonthals have been shown as Hindus. Part of the increase is undoubtedly due to the immigration and settlement of Sonthals in the district, particularly in the western tracts.

27. *Christians*—

1881	...	48
1891	...	522

The figures for 1881 are obviously wrong. The distribution of the Christian population for the two years respectively is given as below:—

Thanas.	1881.	1891.
Suri ...	39	99
Dubrajpur ...	...	7
Bolpur ...	...	3
Rampur Hát ...	...	365
Mayureshwar ...	9	19
Nalhati ...	...	29
Total ...	48	522

The largest numbers occur, of course, in Suri and Rampur Hát, the head-quarters of the district and the subdivision, respectively.

Head VII —Language.

40. Of the total population of 797,833, the parent tongue of 731,872, or nearly 91·7 per cent. has been returned as Bengali; that of 42,345, or 5·3 per cent., as Sonthali; and that of 22,521, or 2·8 per cent., as Hindi. These three languages together claim 99·8 per cent. of the population.

41. The following figures show the changes on this head since 1881 :—

Number of persons speaking the language.	1881.	1891.
Bengali	769,341	731,872
Sonthali	11,744	42,345
Hindi	11,564	22,521

The figures for Sonthali in 1881 were evidently understated, and many Sonthals were apparently shown as Hindus by religion, speaking Bengali as their language. They do speak Bengali as well as their parent tongue—the Sonthali. The parent tongue of all Sonthals has now been shown as Sonthali; though, in their intercourse with the Bengalis they speak Bengali. It is further to be observed that many Bengali-Muhammadans, who amongst themselves speak a mongrel language, compounded of Urdu and Bengali, have returned themselves in this census as speaking the Hindi as their mother tongue, and this should be considered in connection with the apparent increase against Hindi.

Head VIII.—Castes.

42. (*a*) *Aboriginal tribes.*—The district has undergone so many invasions from races of different origin, one race being pushed on or subdued and intermixed with another, that it is difficult at this stage to trace out the real autochthons of the district. From the following story in the *Mahabharat* it appears that the district was covered with thick woods and inhabited by fierce jungle tribes. It is said that Pandavas after their escape from *Jalugriha* fled to the jungle and took their refuge in Akchokra, a place near present Katasur in *thana* Mayureshwar. There Bhim, one of the five brothers of Pandavas, killed a monster named Hirambak (probably a chieftain of the then jungle race). This Dr. W. Hunter thinks to be a "legend of the Aryan conquest of Bengal" (page 384, Hunter's Report of Birbhum). These monsters are described to have been black and sturdy, devouring any flesh they could procure. The Sonthals of the present day who live in the thick woods of the Sonthal Parganas are most like the description, and would readily take any flesh except human. It is probable that the original inhabitants, the so-called monsters, after being conquered by a stronger race, fled and took shelter in the inaccessible hills and jungles of the Sonthal Parganas, and were the forefathers of the present Sonthals. There they remained unmixed and retained their primitive character. They did not venture to come down to the plains till the possession of the district by the English.

43. Mr. Oldham in his Ethnical Report of Burdwan, writing about the Bagdi land which includes Birbhum also, states that among the present semi-Hinduised aborigines, Bagdis are the oldest settled race, and he connects them to the Malpaharias of the Rajmahal Hills. I agree with him in this view. But I believe they were not autochthons of the district. Bagdis, or more properly speaking Malpaharis, were the only adventurous aboriginal tribe who had their own kings and armies. In the palmy days of the Ramayan they occupied a still more western country. It is stated in the Ramayan that when Ram went to bathe in the Ganges he encountered a king named Guhak of an aboriginal tribe called Chandals, by which name the aboriginal tribes of the time were generally termed. From the description given of them and of their presents to Ram, it is clear that they were no other race than the progenitors of the present Bagdi caste; for it is said that they gave presents of fishes, roots, and fruits, of lilies and other watery shrubs, of which they, up to this date, are very fond. As the Hindus advanced, they made their way eastward, and settled themselves in the Rajmahal and Daman-i-koh hills. But even there they did not find themselves safe, or there was not sufficient space to contain their whole population. They proceeded in a still more easterly direction and proved inconquerable, and subdued the original inhabitants of Birbhum, Burdwan, Bankura, and Midnapore, and founded a kingdom known as the Vishnupur Raj. After the Hindu conquests of these districts they settled peacefully under them, and got an infusion of Aryan blood. It was a long-established custom with Aryans, traceable up to the Vedic time, to marry the women of the conquered race, without distinction of caste and creed. The Bagdis thus got admittance into the pale of Hinduism, and gradually learned and followed the rituals and doctrines of Hindus.

44. Mals or Mallas were the warrior race of the Vishnupur family, and claimed kinsmanship with that house. They assert their superiority to Bagdis, but they are descendants of the same stock with the Bagdis, with whom they interchange the *hooka* up to the present date. In physical aspects, love of fishes and intoxication, and general mode of living, there is no difference between the Mals and Bagdis.

45. Throughout the district is found another large section of the Dravidian race called Bauris. They came after the Bagdis had settled. They occupied the soil called Bauri land in Burdwan district. The present Bauris of Birbhum are the overflow of that land. In features they show less uniformity with the Aryans than do the Bagdis. This shows a less infusion of Hindu blood among them, and proves that they came long after the Hindu settlement.

46. There is another semi-Hinduised race called Bhuimali or Hari. Mr. Oldham thinks that they are recruits of the outcaste Bauris.

47. Coming now to the Aryan time, the Sadgops appear to be the oldest settled Hindus of this district. They all claim their origin to the Gopbhum in Burdwan district, which place they occupied as their own soil, having a king of their own race.

48. The following are the principal castes found in this district, arranged according to local precedence, together with the occupations followed by their members. I am unable to compare the caste figures with those of 1872 and ascribe any cause of variation, as there were changes of jurisdiction since then :—

Brahman.—In social position Brahmans occupy the first place among the Hindus. In Vedic time they were the most cultured race versed in Vedas and Smritis. Then they were priests, spiritual guides, teachers, lawyers; in brief, they monopolized all the important functions; but at present, although they stand in the same position in point of caste, many of them have abandoned their former functions. The caste table shows that there were 37,457 Brahmans in 1891. They claim to be the descendants of five Brahmans brought by Rajah Adisur, of Gour, from Kanuj. They have no special grouping peculiar to this district. They spread over the whole district, and are *zamindars*, tenure-holders, money-lenders, occupancy *raiyats*, Government servants, &c.

Acharjas, Daibagnas, and Ganaks form a branch of the Brahman caste, but follow particular occupations of astrologers, genealogists, horoscope casters, and vaccinators. They are 433 in number. (*b*) *Barno Brahman* 7. Administer priesthood of low castes and are therefore thought degraded Brahmans. (*c*) *Pandas* 8. Administer offerings to shrines. (*d*) *Bhat Moharaj* 427. They are heralds and bards.

Kshatriyas very insignificant in number, only 556 in the whole district. They claim to be the descendants of the warrior caste of the ancient Hindus. I doubt of their being so. They are at present traders and occupancy *raiyats*.

Rajputs, 6,606. Claiming Kshatriya-hood. The Rajputs found in this district are employed in agriculture, and are a cultivating caste.

Ghatwals, 515 in number. These persons also claim Kshatriya origin. They were formerly employed to guard the *ghats* (hill passes), from which their name is derived, and were paid by service land. They retain their former tenures, but now they have nothing to do of their former duty. They are at present to supervise the work of *chaukidars* in their respective jurisdictions.

Baidya, physician caste, 1,239. Many persons of this caste have abandoned their hereditary occupation, and are now landed proprietors, occupancy *raiyats*, Government servants, &c.

Kayasthas, the writer caste. To a large extent they follow their hereditary occupation. The Kayasthas of this district are *Utterrarhi* Kayasthas. There are few *Dakhinrarhis* and *Lalas* who have come from other districts for service. The total numbers 8,452. They are landed proprietors, occupancy *raiyats*, Government servants, *gumashtas* under *zamindars*, &c.

Agarwalas, 17. They are up-country Baniyas employed in trade.

Next in order come the Navasakhas, or nine clean Sudras, at the head of which stand the Sadgops. The Sadgops are the earliest settled Hindus of this district, and the most numerous of all castes. The census of 1891 returns their number as 80,175. They are the most substantial cultivators, and many of them own landed property, and some have recently taken to Government service, trade, and profession. A full description of this caste has been given by Mr. Batabyal in paragraph 3 of his report on the other heads.

Out of this caste has arisen a new caste called *Kowar*. The members of this caste are generally well-to-do and influential men. They, thinking it beneath their dignity to mix with ordinary Sadgops, formed a group within which they intermarry, and they now call it a distinct caste and rank it among the Vaisyas of the former dates.

Out of the Sadgop caste has arisen another mixed caste called Ugro Kshatriyas, or Auguri, 3,059 in number. They owe their origin to the Sadgops of Gopbhum and Kshatriyas of Burdwan. They are chiefly an agricultural caste, but many of them are now employed in trades, professions, and Government service.

Napit, 9,712, barber caste. They are principally employed in their hereditary profession. Some are now cultivators.

Kamar, blacksmith, 10,195. Generally follow their hereditary occupation. There are some of this caste in this district who are respectable landholders and well-to-do occupancy *raiyats*. *Kamila*, 2, shown under *Sarnakar*, belong to this caste. They are engaged in making jewellery.

Kansari is a branch of the *Karmakar* caste, manufacturers of brass and copper pots, 495. *Thathiri*, 180, also belong to this class.

Tili, 5,099. A respectable trading and cultivating caste. This caste has always been mixed with *Teli* (*Kalu*). They are occupancy *raiyats* and traders. Thirty-six *Kundu*, shown separately, belong to this caste.

Kumar, makers of earthen pots and vessels, 7,428. They are mostly engaged in their hereditary occupation. Some of them are occupancy *raiyats*.

Malakar, gardeners, flower sellers, 441. They are engaged in preparing and selling garlands of flowers, making earthen idols and fancy ornaments for them. Two hundred and ninety-three, shown as a separate caste, *Mali*, belong to this caste.

Tambuli, originally pan sellers, now traders, land proprietors, well-to-do occupancy *raiyats*, 1,724.

Barui, 2,070. A cultivating caste, chiefly engaged in growing and selling *pans*.

Moyra, 9,523, sweetmeat makers. They also manufacture sugar out of molasses. Some of them are respectable traders, money-lenders, landed proprietors, and occupancy *raiyats*. To this group may be added the following, who occupy the same position as the Navasakhas.

Banik, 10,823. A respectable trading caste employed as grocers, dealers in spices and salt, dealers in grains and general merchandise. *Oswal* 6 and *Nunia* 3 may be added to this caste.

Sankari are offshoots of the Baniya caste, 671. Make and sell shell bracelets.

Tanti, 15,073, the weaver caste. The Tantis of this district are reputed for their manufacture of tasar and silk cloths, towels and table cloths of different descriptions. Some of them have also extensive money-lending, dealing in cocoons, and landed property. The *Chains*, 152, belong to this caste. *Kahar*, 1,248, a cultivating and labouring caste.

Next comes the Subarnabaniks. In point of wealth and respectability, they occupy a position superior to those of the Navasakhas, and may be ranked among the Kayasthas and Baidyas, but in point of caste they are thought inferior to the Navasakhas. They claim their high birth from the Vaisyas of the former days. They are landed proprietors, money-lenders, dealers in gold and silver.

The following are intermediate Sudra castes:—

Goalas.—They are of the same descent as the Gops, but are thought degraded on account of their castrating oxen Their chief occupation is to keep and milk cows and buffaloes, and to sell the milk and curd.

Kaibarttas, 7,172. There are two divisions of this caste—one employed in cultivation, and the other in fishing. *Chasa*, 120, who have been returned separately, form a branch of this caste. *Kewats*, 3,736, who also have been shown as a separate caste, are analogous to this caste. The two divisions of the *Kaibartta* caste do not intermarry, nor do they interchange the *hooka*. The cultivating division think the fishing one as lower. To this caste may be added 27 *Naiya* shown separately.

Koiri, 121, cultivating caste. They are field labourers paid by a share of the produce.

Kurmi, 343, a jungle tribe, now recognized as Hindus. They are cultivators and sellers of jungle produce.

Sarnakar, *Sonar*, *Sekra*, 4,838. Manufacturers of gold and silver ornaments, and dealers in jewellery. They are thought low castes on account of their supposed propensity for pilfering gold and silver entrusted to them.

Bhaskar, 8, masons. Follow their hereditary occupation.

Sutradhar, carpenters. Many of them follow hereditary occupation. Some living near Suri are very expert workmen. The following are low-caste Sudras:—

Pod, *Pundari*, *Kakhya*, *Puro*, 6,132, a fishing caste found in the northern part of the district. They have now abandoned their hereditary occupation, and are well-to-do cultivators. There is a family of big *zamindars* and money-lenders among them.

Sunri, *Kalwar*, *Saw*, *Shaha or Shaha Banick*, 16,789, manufacturers of wine. They are as a class well-to-do persons. Some of them are *zamindars*, traders, and occupancy *raiyats*.

Teli and *Kalu*, 50,325, oil pressers. Many persons have now abandoned their own profession and are landholders, money-lenders, dealers in grain, and occupancy *raiyats*. When they give up the oil-pressing business, they call hemselves Chaudhris, and think themselves superior to those who follow their hereditary professions.

The following, though of aborginal origin, are now classed among low-caste Sudras:—

Malo, *Raja Malo*, *Mal*, *Mali*, are different names of the same caste—33,990. Their chief occupations are fishing, boat-plying, and cultivation.

Bagdi, 76,080. In occupation they are closely alike to Mals, and are merely a different branch of the same caste.

Tiyar, 1,004, fishermen and boatmen.

Sarak, 118, an agricultural caste.

Patua, 168, weavers and painters.

Bhuias Bhumij, 1,517, a cultivating class, chiefly reside in the jungle tracts.

Baiti Chunari, 287, prepare lime.

Dhobi, 3 820, washermen. Some of them are employed in Government service.

Gareri, 19, a pastoral caste. 147 *Gonrhi* also belong to this caste.

Jugi, 1,659, weaver caste.

Koyrah, 385, a cultivating caste.

The following are the semi-Hinduised aborigines:—

Nat, 59, a wandering tribe.

Pashi, 21, employed in tapping palm and date trees.

Doms, 36,159. There are several classes of Doms following several professions. They are basket-makers, cultivators, labourers, and midwives, and drummers.

Chamars, 37,164, shoe-makers and leather dealers.

Dosadh, 129, cultivators and labourers.

Dhanuks, 24, labourers.

Chandals, 5,777, cultivators and labourers.

Bauries, 30,137, palanquin bearers, field labourers, and cultivators.

Bunas, 6,361, chiefly employed as day labourers.

Bedias, 951, snake-charmers, jugglers, bird-catchers, and fortune-tellers.

Kaoras, Jalsagar, Konai, 9,875. These castes are chiefly employed in earthwork. There is a section of it, called Kunai found in *thana* Rampur Hát, who are chiefly employed in agriculture and do not admit of their Konarah origin.

Hari or *Bhuimali*, 28,539, swineherds, sweepers, and *mehters*. Some are now employed in cultivation.

The following labouring castes are also found in this district:—68 *Birhar*, 139 *Bhar*, 17 *Bind*, 2,003 *Chero*, 351 *Kunjar*, 8 *Kharwar*, 23 *Khatick*, 151 *Kaur*, 93 *Mundu*, 84 *Musahur*, 171 *Nuri*, 57 *Oraon*, 31 *Patni*, 3 *Pathur*, 120 *Pargha*, 222 *Rajwar*, and 5 *Turi*.

49. The foregoing lists of Hindu castes do not show the persons returned by title or unidentifiable sub-castes, by locality, by occupation, and by religion. Vaishnavas also have been omitted, as they are not recognized as a caste but a sect of religious devotees, the followers of Chaitanya. Vaishnavism was a pure religion followed by persons who became vexed of the worldly affairs. Persons of all castes were admitted to it. It has now become as degraded as possible, and has taken the shape of a caste having many groups now called sub-castes. It has turned to be an asylum of Hindus who have lost their castes on account of their having contracted illicit intimacy with persons of low castes. There are two great seats of Vaishnavas in this district, one at Akchakra, the present Kotasur, where Nityananda, the principal disciple of Chaitanya, took his birth; another at Kenduli, the birthplace of Joydev, a great Sanskrit lyric poet, the author of the famous *Gita Gobinda* In both of these places a *mela* is held annually in commemoration of these personages.

50. Some Sonthals have been returned as Hindus, but I know of no Sonthal following Hinduism. It is for the ignorance of the enumerators and of the Sonthals themselves that they have been so returned.

Head IX.—Occupations.

51. (*A*) *Agriculture.*—Birbhum is chiefly an agricultural district. Agriculture is followed by every class of natives without distinction of caste. Even the persons who have been returned as service-holders, traders, artisans, and professional men depend mostly on agriculture. Other occupations are only supplementary to it. The only distinction observable among the several cultivating castes is that some castes have their land cultivated by others, some cultivate their lands themselves, and some others have no land of their own but cultivate others' land and are paid by a share of the produce. There are, however, persons, such as pastoral and wandering tribes. Vaishnavas, and persons employed in personal services, who do not follow this business. But their number is very limited. The census of 1891 returns the number of persons chiefly employed in agriculture as 491,678 out of 797,833 souls, *i.e.*, more than half the whole population. These may be subdivided as follows:—

Zamindars.—Their number have not been given separately. But the number of *zamindars* and tenure-holders have been given as 18,330. Brahmans, Kayasthas, Baidyas, Sadgops, Tanti, Kalu, Sunri, Pundarikakha, and Musalmans are the inhabitant *zamindars* of the district. The females of this class of people are mostly engaged in supervising the work of domestic servants.

Tenure-holders.—The caste mentioned in the last foregoing head and the *ghatwals* hold tenures which are *patni, darpatni, sepaltani, ijara* (farming rent), *mukarrari*, lakhiraj, and *ghatwali*. The last-named tenure is held by *ghatwals*. The females of this class are engaged in the same way as those of the zamindars. There is also another kind of tenure called service tenure. These tenures are held by *chaukidars* who are generally low-caste people, such as Bagdi, Dom, Hari, and Bauri. Their number may be put at 12,900. The females of these castes follow their hereditary occupation, *i.e.*, the Bagdis fishing, the Doms bamboo-work, the Haris labour, and the Bauris preparing leaf plates.

Occupancy or non-occupancy raiyats.—In this district, almost all the *raiyats* are occupancy *raiyats*. There are only a few under-*raiyats* who have not the right of occupancy. There are, however, two divisions of the *raiyats*: tenants not cultivating and tenants cultivating, the first numbering 84,156; these are Brahmans, Kshatriyas, Baidyas, and Kayasthas. The women of these people are employed in domestic services. The second, together with the sharers, number 326,558. Of these the number of cultivating occupancy *raiyats* may be put at about 3 lakhs, and the remainder are non-occupancy *raiyats* who cultivate the lands of occupancy *raiyats* sublet for a fixed period at a fixed rental, or given for cultivation and paid by a share of the produce. They are Sadgops, Telis, Barui, Aguri, Rajputs, Kaibartta, Sunri, and other middle-caste Hindus. They do not claim any other right to the land they occupy than that laid down in the law. The females of this class, besides doing their domestic work, husk rice and assist to a great extent the males in their agricultural pursuits.

Field labourers—Bagdis, Mals, Doms, Haris, and other low castes. They are paid by a share of the produce, which varies according to circumstances and locality, and also by piece-work and daily wages. The females of this class assist the males in agricultural operations, do domestic work, and earn money by day labour.

52. (*B*) *Profession.*—Only 10,001 out of a population of 797,833 follow profession. The following is a short description of the various professions followed:—

Priests.—There is only 1 Missionary and 3 preachers of Christianity, and 9 *Zanana* Mission Service. The first is a European and the latter are Native Christians. The

number of Hindu priests is 3,265, both male and female, belonging to Brahman caste. The males administer priesthood, and the females are employed in their own domestic affairs. There are 110 other persons who are engaged in subsidiary religious services; these are Muhammadans, the employment of whose females is alike to that of Brahmans.

Literate.—The total number of persons employed in the educational profession, including females dependent on them, is 1,355 souls, of whom 8 are inspecting officers, 683 teachers mostly of aided schools, 47 private secretaries, and 17 doing other kinds of services in the department. The remainder 600 persons are females depending on the above-mentioned persons. Those employed in this branch of profession are chiefly Kayasthas and Brahmans. The chief inspecting officers, however, belong to the Subarnabanik caste. The females of this class are mostly employed in domestic service.

Law.—There are 95 pleaders and 121 *muktears*, and 44 persons employed under them as clerks and assistants. The number of stamp vendors is very small—only 17 in the whole district. The females depending on this class of people number 208, and assist to a great extent in domestic affairs. Brahmans, Kayasthas, Sadgops, Aguris, and Muhammadans form this class.

Medicine.—The number of persons practising medicine, including females depending on them, is 2,389. Of these the *kabirajs* and *hakims*, numbering 1,364, belong mostly to the Baidya caste and Muhammadans. There are a few of Kalu and other castes who also practise in medicine. The vaccinators (17) belong to the Daibagna caste, the midwives (945) to Dom and Native Christians, and the compounders mostly to Muhammadans. The females of this class are employed in household services. Eighteen Muhammadans and Goalas are employed as cattle doctors. The females are employed as above.

Miscellaneous.—Sixty-two Brahmans, Suris, and Musalmans are employed as contractors, &c.; 2 Moyras as pack-bullock owners and drivers, and 93 Potuas as painters The females of the contractors are employed in domestic service, those of the pack-bullock drivers in domestic work and in pounding rice, and those of the Potuas in painting and begging.

To this class may be added 161 chiefly Bairagis, who earn their livelihood by disreputable means, and 6 Muhammadans by exhibiting puppets.

53. (*C*) *Commerce.*—(1) *Money-lending.*—There are 467 money-lenders belonging to the caste of Brahman, Kayastha, Baidya, Subarnabanik, Kalu, Pundarikakhya, and Musalman. The females of this class are employed in domestic services. Fifty Baniyas are employed as brokers. Females engaged as above.

General merchants.—Two thousand four hundred and thirty-three persons deal in general merchandise. These are Banik, Sadgop, Kalu, and Marwaris Females are employed in domestic services.

Vegetable food.—Three thousand two hundred and twelve persons deal in grains. They are Marwaris, Kalwars, Sadgop, and Musalmans. Females are employed indomestic work.

Food.—Five thousand nine hundred and sixty-three persons of Baniya, Moyra, Kalu, Musalman deal in grocery. Twenty-one Muhammadans sell eggs, 13 fruit, and there are 1,402 persons who deal in other condiments. Females do domestic work.

Fuel.—Seven hundred and ninety-two persons, chiefly Muhammadans and Sonthals, deal in firewood and coal Females of Muhammadans do domestic work, and those of Sonthals assist the males in their work.

Miscellaneous.—Seven hundred and twenty-nine persons deal in stationery articles. They are chiefly of the Baniya caste, 7 sell books, and 9 pictures. Six thousand two hundred and seventy-five persons deal in silk cocoons. These are principally Sadgops and Tantis. Ten persons of the Baniya caste deal in raw cotton. Four thousand and fifty-seven Marwaris, Baniyas, and Tantis in piece-goods. Two Marwaris in quilts, 42 in umbrellas, 25 in kerosine oil. Forty Subarnabaniks and Moyras in gold and silver, 4,010 Muhammadans and Sonthals sell bamboo and woods, 160 Baniyas and Tantis shell-lac, 109 Brahmans, Moyras, Goalas, and Musalmans deal in drugs, and 661 Muhammadans in hides and bones. Six Baniyas deal in oilcakes, 27 Muhammadans in glass and china-ware, 2 Bauris in honey, 1 Muhammadan in grease, 2,615 Moyras and Baniyas in miscellaneous goods. The females of Hindus and Musalmans shown in this class are employed in domestic services, and those of Sonthals in collecting and selling woods.

54. (*D*) *Art.*—(1) *Fabric and dress stuffs.*—There are 4 Muhammadans who repair shawls, 79 Gareris prepare and sell blankets, 40 Tantis spin silk, and 609 Tantis weave silk and tasar, 16,172 Tantis, Jolhas, and Potuas spin and weave cotton, 335 Muhammadans make and sell ropes and gunny, and 952 Muhammadans are employed as tailors. The females of this class, besides performing domestic works, assist the males to a great extent in the business they follow.

Food and drink.—Two thousand three hundred and twenty-three Sunris and Kalwars prepare and sell country and fermented liquor, 330 Moyras manufacture and sell sugar and molasses, 637 Muhammadans manufacture and sell tobacco, and 3,035 Moyras manufacture and sell confectionery. The females of this class are employed in domestic work, but of the Moyras, however, are engaged to a large extent in making and selling confectionery.

Animal substances.—Twenty-six Goalas prepare and sell *ghi*, and 105 Muhammadans deal in flesh. The females of the Goalas make and sell *ghi*, and of the Muhammadans do domestic work.

Vegetable.—Three hundred and twenty-eight Baniyas and Musalmans grind and sell flour, 5 Muhammadans make and sell loaves, 2 Baniyas sell bran. The females are generally employed in grinding flour.

Mineral substances.—Seventy Karmakars make and sell knives and other implements, 4,799 Sarnakars and Karmakars work in gold and silver and prepare jewellery, 1,549 Karmakars and Haris prepare brassware, and 37 work in tin, and 3,782 Karmakars prepare hardware, and 6 Kamars and Chhutars are employed as railway mechanics. The females are employed in domestic work.

Light and fuel.—One hundred and twenty-one Potuas make and sell matches, 7,098 Kalus press and sell oil, and 1,471 Konai, Sonthal, and other low castes prepare and sell fuel from cow-dung. The females, besides doing domestic work, assist the males in their work.

Building materials, &c.— Five hundred and forty persons of the Kumar and Chunary caste and Muhammadans prepare and sell building materials, and 591 Bagdis and Doms work in stores and as masons. Forty-eight Bairagis and Musalmans are engaged in making and repairing carts. The females are engaged in domestic work.

Earthen and stoneware.—Four thousand three hundred and eighty-one Kumars prepare earthen pots and images, the females largely assisting the males.

Wood.—Two hundred and twenty-six Bauris are wood-cutters, 5,524 Sutradhars, Vaishnavas, and Muhammadans work as carpenters. The females of the Bauris collect and sell wood, and others are engaged in domestic work.

Cane and bamboo work, &c.—Eight thousand nine hundred and two Doms are engaged in bamboo and cane work, and 569 Bauris in making leaf plates, the females generally assisting the males.

Subsidiary requirements.—There are 9 Muhammadans who bind books, 5 print, 9 Vaishnavas repair clocks, 29 Nuris make toys, 92 Muhammadans make *hooka* stems, 704, chiefly Chamars, prepare musical instruments. Fourteen Nuris make lac bangles, 662 Sankaries shell bracelets, 821 Vaishnavas beads, 757 Malakars flower garlands, 92 Brahmans sacred thread, 10 *Malis* gunpowder and fireworks, and 2,977 Chamars shoes and boots. The females to a small extent assist the males, besides doing domestic work.

The following may be added to the artisan class :—

Ninety-six thousand seven hundred and ninety-three Bauris, Haris, Doms, Sonthals, Chamars, Dhangars, and other low castes are employed in digging tanks, making roads, railways, husking rice, and other general labour. The females are employed in the same way as the males.

55. (*E*) *Pastoral groups.*—(1) Two thousand eight hundred and fifty-six Goalas keep cows and buffaloes, and 9,571 mostly of the same caste, and some Musalmans, breed and sell cows and buffaloes, and 14 Muhammadans breed and sell sheep and goats. The females generally help the males.

56. (*F*) *Hunting and fishing group.*—(1) Eighteen thousand seven hundred and fifty-six persons of the Kaibartta, Kewat, Mal, and Bagdi caste are engaged in fishing and selling fish, and 32 Bauris in sport. The females are generally engaged in selling fish and flesh.

57. (*G*) *Serving group.*—(1) There are 34 officers employed in the district, some of them are Europeans, and others Brahmans and Kayasthas; 326 persons are employed in clerical staff under the Government, and one under the municipality. They are Brahman, Kayastha, Baidya, Subarnabanik, Baniya, Sadgop, Dhoba, and Musalman. Two thousand one hundred and sixty-five persons are employed as peons and constables. They are Brahman, Kayastha, Sadgop, Musalman, &c. Sixteen Kayasthas and Sadgops are employed as Railway clerks, and 20 of the same caste as station-masters, 4 Sadgops and Brahmans as permanent-way inspectors, 268 Bauris and Haris as pointsmen, &c., 48 Brahmans, Kayasthas and Sadgops as post-masters and clerks, 262 Bauris, Vaishnavas, Haris, and Musalmans as messengers and runners. The females of the officers are employed in supervising the work of domestic servants, and those of clerks in domestic service, and those of menials in domestic service and daily labour. Twenty-three thousand three hundred and six persons are employed as village watchmen. They are Bagdi, Bauri, and Hari. Their females are employed in their hereditary occupation—daily labour, &c.

The following are employed in personal and domestic services:—4,668 Napits as barbers, 929 Dhobas as washermen, 291 Brahmans and Kayasthas as cooks, 5,485 Napits, Moyras, Sadgops, and Musalmans as indoor servants, 205 Haris and Musalmans as grooms, 24,163 Napits, Sadgops, Moyras, Musalmans, Bagdis, Haris, and Doms in other services, 61 Brahmans are employed as hotel-keepers, and 367 Haris as sweepers, and 6 Muhammadans as keepers of elephants. The females of this class, besides doing their domestic work, attend on wealthier classes and do daily work.

The following persons serve under *zamindars*:—3,212 Brahmans, Baidyas, Kayasthas, Sadgops are employed under *zamindars* as managers, clerks, and *gumashtas*. Their females are employed in domestic services.

The following may be added to the serving group:—974 Sadgops, Kalus, Bagdis, and Musalmans are cart drivers, 975 Bauris and Haris palki bearers, 44 Mals and Koibarttas as boatmen, 137 Bauris and Haris as potters, and 248 Baniyas and Moyras as weighmen. The females are employed in domestic service and other indoor and outdoor labour.

58. (*H*) *Unproductive group.*—(1) *Astrologers.*—One hundred and thirty-six Daibagnas are astrologers, genealogists, and horoscope writers.

Dancers and singers.—One thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven persons are employed in musical instruments, music, and dancing. They are of the Bairagi, Dom, and Chamar castes.

Devotees.—Eight thousand persons are religious devotees or, more properly saying, mendicant beggars.

Jugglers and snake-charmers, and animal exhibitors.—Twenty-four Bajikars are exhibitors of trained animals.

Musician and ballad reciters.—Twelve Bhats are ballad reciters.

Tumblers and acrobats.—Seventy-eight Bajikars are tumblers.

Besides, there are 96 persons of different castes living on house-rent and allowance received from patrons and relatives, 75 on pension, and there are 81 under-trial and convict prisoners.

Head X.—Administrative.

59. Generally it may be said that the general instructions were not departed from in any material point. A practical difficulty, however, was experienced in carrying out the instructions contained in paragraph 1 of Census Superintendent's circular No. I, dated 7th May 1890, regarding the verification of Register B. The officers in charge of the police-stations were unable to state what hamlets, *grams*, &c., now occupy the area of each *mauza* as entered in Register A. Ultimately the course adopted was this.—A complete list of existing villages in each *thana*, as entered in the *thana* register, was obtained from the police. This list was compared with the B Register, and two statements were drawn up, one showing the names of villages mentioned in the list, but not appearing in Register B; and the other showing the names of villages in Register B, but not appearing in the police list. One set of these two lists was prepared for each sub-charge, and together with extracts from the B Register relating to the subcharge, was handed over to the Sub-charge Superintendent, with instructions to reconcile or account for the discrepancies, and with their aid to complete the village list of the subcharge. The Sub-charge Superintendents visited each village in their respective jurisdictions, and completed the village register of the local enquiries with the aid of the list abovementioned.

(*a*) Points in which the general instructions were departed from, with the reasons for doing so.

60. It will be observed that the departure from the general instruction in this instance was only a point of detail. The correction of the B Register, instead of being made in the way suggested in Census Superintendent's circular, was effected in a somewhat different way. The result was quite satisfactory, and the register of villages has been fully brought up to date. I may, in passing, remark that the corespondence of *mauzas* and villages, as shown in the old registers A and B, is often incorrect. Nor is it easy, in many cases, to say without detailed local inquiry in what survey *mauzas* a particular hamlet lies. Information of this kind it is hopeless to expect from the police.

61. The definition in paragraph 2 of the circular, read with the remarks in paragraph 3, is sufficiently precise, though I must say that a great deal is still left to the discretion of the local officer to decide. It is not always easy with this definition to say, for instance, whether a group of houses newly built in a patch of jungle near a village is to be treated as a new village or not. In practice, however, many difficulties of this kind did not arise, and *paras* and *mahallas* as a rule were grouped with the many villages.

(*b*) Definition of a village in circular No. 10, dated 30th July 1890.

62. The definition of a house, meaning a commensal house, is sufficiently precise. I think it to be an improvement on the old definition as given in paragraph 94, page 35 of the Census Report* of 1881. The word "homestead" in the old definition is not sufficiently precise. In the present definition, however, there is one omission. It covers a commensal house consisting of one or many buildings, but it does not cover such a house consisting of a portion of a building only. Thus, in one instance it was found that a large substantial brick-built house was inhabited by more than 20 different families, into which one original joint family has, in the course of generations, been split up.

(*c*) The definition of a house in the 2nd instruction to Supervisors.

63. While on this point I may mention that the headings of the block list in the schedule books appeared to be inconsistent with the definition of a house. According to the definition, the house can contain only *one family*. If so, how can there be a serial *No.* of families occupying a particular house? In column 4 of the block list there could be but one number, viz., 1. In this district the column was filled up in that way. In very rare instances, where a joint family separated *after* the numbering of the house, but *before* the filling of the block list, there was a second number. Also, where by inadvertence a house containing two commensal families have been marked with one number only, a second or third number appeared in column 4. But such instances were extremely rare.

64. In one other respect the definition of *house* as now given was found to be hazy. Most substantial families in this district had *khamarbaris* or farm-houses, where grain is stored and cattle are stabled. They are often at a distance from the residential house. As a rule no one sleeps in those houses or takes food therein. But strangers and guests are accommodated there. The question which arose was this—Are these farm-houses (*khamarbaris*) to be treated as part and parcel of the residental houses? In practice they were dealt with like schools, shop houses, and the like, and were (to be on the safe side and according to the method of the census of 1881) separately numbered.

65. The administrative divisions of 1881 were closely followed. The district this time was divided into 25 subcharges, and these again were grouped under eight charges. The charges were exactly conterminous with the *thanas*. The average number of houses in a subcharge was 8,333, which was, no doubt, a somewhat large number, but there were no

(*d*) The size of the charge or subcharge.

* It is thus worded :—"The several buildings or rooms which go to make up the *homestead*, whether inhabited by one or more families.

officials available to admit of any further increase in the number of subcharges. Indeed, each charge Superintendent had also to be put in charge of a subcharge. As all these subcharge Superintendents were public officers who had other important duties besides the census, the strain upon their time and energies was indeed very great.

(e) The size of the circle.

66. The model circle was to consist of 500 houses. In practice the circles that were constructed contained an average number of 482 houses in the rural areas and of 305 houses in the town. Each ward of the town was constituted into a circle, and as the number of men available in the town (Suri) was large, the standard of 500 houses was departed from, to ensure better supervision. The size of a circle was generally manageable quite easily.

(f) The size of the block.

67. Villages with less than 50 houses were treated as one block each. In other cases the number of 50 houses for one block was seldom exceeded. The average number of houses in a block, in the rural areas, was 35, that in the town 42. In no instance did any enumerator complain that his block was too large.

(g) The number of houses, &c.

68. I estimated that if strict economy was observed, the numbering of 100 houses with diluted tar would cost about ½ anna. At this rate the cost of numbering 208,332 houses in the district would be about Rs. 65. In many cases, however, the supervisors submitted bills at higher rates. The Subdivisional Officer of Rampur Hát thinks that the probable actual cost was about 6 pie per block, by which I understand him to mean 1 anna per 100 houses. I should say roughly the probable actual cost for the whole district was something like Rs. 100. This has been paid in some cases by the supervisors, in others by the enumerators. In the majority of the cases they refrained from asking for the amounts spent by them. The actual amount claimed and paid was Rs. 7-3-2.

(h) The practicability of a permanent numbering of houses.

69. The houses in the rural areas are generally of an unsubstantial nature. They are so frequently pulled down, destroyed or rebuilt, they have to be so often mud-washed or mud-plastered, that I do not think it at all feasible to effect their marking in a permanant manner with tar or similar substances used in the census. If tin plates or similar devices are used, the next question is, who is to look after their preservation, and who is to pay the initial cost of renewing the marks? If the thing is to be attempted at all, the cost must be borne by the Government To realize a few pies from every householder would be highly inconvenient. But I see no trustworthy agency which can be fully relied upon in seeing that those numbers are preserved, and that notes are kept of houses that are destroyed or pulled down and not rebuilt, and that new numbers are put on new houses. The only practicable scheme in this district that I can suggest is to have lists of houses in each village prepared in duplicate, one copy being lodged in the *thana* and another made over to the *chaukidar* or *chaukidars* of the village; it being made the duty of the latter to report that any particular house mentioned in his list has ceased to exist, or that a new house in the *mahalla* has sprung up. The *thana* officers under such an arrangement should be made responsible for seeing that the *chaukidars* do their duty. How the scheme would work it is difficult to predict. One thing I may say, that the owner of the house will take no personal interest whatever in preserving the number. It will be of no use to him personally in any way. He can be made to see that his house bears the number affixed to it only by a penalty. I doubt if the law imposed such a penalty it could be adequately enforced. In many cases the infraction of the law would go unpunished for want of information, and if such be the result, and a trustworthy record of the number of houses in any villages be not available at any moment, the scheme is hardly worth trying.

70. We had to start work with an imperfect knowledge of the procedure as a whole. This procedure unfolded itself gradually in a series of circulars, and there was at the commencement of the work nothing to give a connected view of the whole procedure. This was perhaps unavoidable in the present occasion, but none the less did it cause inconvenience. It gave rise to misconceptions. Important points of detail were sometimes overlooked as their importance was not realized until at a later stage.

71. Then we had to begin with untrained men. The so-called training given to a few of our room supervisors at Alipore was worthless. The men in fact returned as ignorant as when they went to Alipore; even the Inspector who first joined this office knew nothing of the work when it was started. The supervising staff should have been made to go through the whole process of abstraction and tabulation in respect of a certain number of blocks under the immediate direction of the local officers in each district. This would have given them practical knowledge of the work to be done and enabled them to understand what points required their special supervision.

72. Then the want of a printed set of instructions in the vernacular relating to the mode in which the sheets and registers were to be filled up was often felt. Clerks were continually leaving office and joining it. To instruct each man verbally was not found to be efficacious: a set of printed rules would have been of great assistance to the clerks in properly understanding their duties.

73. The staff of officers allowed in the beginning was insufficient. The Census Superintendent knows very well how he had to sanction a large staff of test-slip clerks and R Form clerks and Assistant Inspectors, for which originally no sort of allowance had been made. We got these officers after a good deal of mischief had resulted in the shape of arrears and bad work through imperfect supervision.

74. The pay of the clerks did not attract good men. Only such men as could attend office from their homes thought it worthwhile to accept the appointments. Men living at a distance from the head-quarters held aloof. We had to depend on such men only as lived in or near Suri. Sometimes we had to go a-begging for men. Notices inviting candidates met with no response, and our *sarishtadars* had to go about from house to house asking for candidates—a spectacle which had a demoralizing effect on the men already employed.

75. The tasks on the different sheets and registers were disproportionate, and while some men could do their work within the time assigned, others had to hurry through them making mistakes. The tasks should have been fixed after the actual experience of various districts after a sufficiently long trial, say three weeks. The tasks were fixed in such a way as to preclude us from objecting to them.

76. The cyclical method of doing work was a source of great inconvenience. The absence of a few men (and men were always absenting themselves on some plea or other) threw the whole office into confusion. This continuous employment of untried and untrained men to do the work of the absentees, was the cause of many mistakes.

77. Tabulation and abstraction should have proceeded side by side. As it was, tabulation was begun when abstraction was nearly finished. Tabulation is the real test of abstraction. Imperfections of the latter (which could not be detected even on the test-slips) came to light during the former operation.

78. The work of testing abstraction fell into heavy arrears at the beginning, as test-slip clerks were not at first allowed. This was a source of much mischief. Abstraction and the testing of it should have been almost simultaneous.

79. In fact the strongest objection that I can see to the proposal made in paragraph 3 of the Census Superintendent's circular No. 98, dated 6th January 1892, is that it is calculated to throw back and delay the operation of testing and tabulation.

80. There was no necessity to employ eight sets of men on the eight main sheets. Fudging would have been quite as effectively checked had only two sets of men been employed on the eight sheets. One set of men might have taken up sheet one and some minor sheets, and another set sheet 2, and the remainder of the minor sheets, including R form. Thus the abstraction of a block into all the sheets could have been accomplished by two men (working without any means of inter-communication) in two days, instead of by eight men in eight days. Arrangement should have been made for filling up the test-slip *at the time of filling up the abstraction sheets*, and thus the abstraction of any one block could have been tested on the third day, and its tabulation taken in hand within a week.

81. These seem to me to be the main points calling for notice. I have no serious fault to find with the forms that were prescribed, except that the style of printing some of them was bad. The lines below the age periods in sheet I were sometimes so placed that they could be mistaken for different age periods. In the R form, the columns for totals should have been distinguished in some prominent way—say by printing them in red ink. The test-slip as originally drawn up was too elaborate, but with the omissions sanctioned it was good enough.

82. I should add one observation more. As the test-slip does not serve the purpose of checking birth-places, languages, and castes, a staff of officers should have been allowed for checking these points *at the time of abstraction*, and not afterwards, as was done on this occasion. In fact, abstraction and the checking of abstraction should have been in every respect simultaneous operations, or operations closely following each other.

APPENDIX.

Note by T. J. C. GRANT, ESQ., *Magistrate of Birbhum, on the alleged effects of Fever epidemics on the population of Birbhum.*

MR. BATABYAL mentions that the very general decrease in the population of the district in the interval between the census of 1872 and that of 1881, was attributed to an outbreak of the terribly fatal fever which devastated Nadia and Hooghly and Burdwan. This fever reached Birbhum in 1871, when it affected only the Sakulipur and Bolpur *thanas*. But in 1872 and 1873 it spread over the whole of the (then) district, except the two outposts of Rajnagar and Khyrasole on the extreme west. With these small exceptions it affected the present *thanas* of Sakulipur, Labpur, and Mayureshwar to the east of East Indian Railway line, and Bolpur, Dubrajpur, and Suri to the west of it. Rampur Hát and Nalhati did not then belong to the district; but they appear to have escaped the fever.

2. Mr. Batabyal goes on to say that the fever "went on raging with increasing virulence"—apparently till the end of the decade, and afterwards. In this I decidedly differ from Mr. Batabyal. As far as I can learn, the fever decreased after 1873, and disappeared about 1875. I was in the district as Magistrate from 1877 to 1879, and I have no doubt that the fever had disappeared before then. The vital statistics of the first half of the decade can throw no light upon the matter, for they are flagrantly wrong. Among other patent absurdities they make the death-rate of Sakulipur and Bolpur the most stricken places at the height of the fever, only 18 per mille. That of Dubrajpur, the next worst place, is put

at only 9 per mille. These statistics do, however, grow more and more trustworthy, and I believe, that those for the decade 1881 to 1890 really give at least safe indications of the relative prevalence of sickness in the different *thanas*.

3. Mr. Batabyal goes on next to account for the absence of any increase in the population, as revealed by the census of 1891. He says, "during this decade also [1881—90] mortality from fever, especially in the southern *thanas*, was very heavy." I do not think that this statement is accurate, after a careful consideration of the distribution of sickness as shown by the vital statistics.

4. It is quite true, however, that just as the decade 1871—80 opened with a burst of fever beginning in 1871, so did the decade 1881—90 begin with fever in 1881 and 1882; and it is a singular fact that the next decade has begun with a very wide and general outbreak of a very distressing, but *not* very fatal fever in 1891.

5. The fever of the years 1881 and 1882 was very general all over the district, but was worst of all in Nalhati, the very most northern *thana* of all. The deaths in both years were actually rather more than double those in 1880.

6. I do not find that the mortality was greatest in the three southern *thanas*. Sakulipur is one of them, and *was* worst of all with 30½ deaths per mille. Bolpur is a southern *thana* and had a death-rate of 28·8 per mille. But so had Labpur to the north of it Suri to the north with 27·8 is, to all intents and purposes, just as bad as the Southern Bolpur, and the same may be said of Nalhati with its 27·2 situated at the extreme north of the district. The whole variation is within a limit of 1½ per mille.

7. Rampur Hát and Mayureshwar have the lightest death-rates, viz., 23 and 23½ respectively, and they are in the north; but Dubrajpur in the very south, with 24½, has really just as light a rate. Here, again, 1½ per mille is the limit of variation.

8. Nor is this nearly all. For, it is very easily seen that the incidence of the death-rate has not influenced the increase or decrease of the population. It is true of Sakulipur that it has at once the highest death-rate, 30½ per mille, and the largest decrease of population, 8·9 per cent.; but this correlation will be found nowhere else.

9. Bolpur has a death-rate of 28·8 per mille, and a decrease of 8·4 per cent. in population. But Labpur also has a death-rate of 28·8, and its population is increased by 8·8; and Suri with a death-rate (27·8) practically the same, has neither increase nor decrease of population. These very striking differences in the movements of population in these three contiguous *thanas*, each with the same death-rate, seem to me to prove pretty conclusively that we must look elsewhere for the cause of them than to mortality from sickness.

10. Rampur Hát and Mayureshwar, with death-rates of 23 and 23½ respectively, have an *increase* of 6·6 and 6·0 per cent. in population.

11. But Dubrajpur, a southern *thana* with a death-rate (24½) almost as light, shows a *decrease* of 5·6 per cent. in population.

12. Nalhati, the very northern *thana* of all, has a distinctly heavier death-rate (27·2) than Dubrajpur in the very south (24·5), and yet it has increased its population by 10 per cent., and Dubrajpur has decreased by 5½ per cent.

13. The following table shows all these facts and figures at a glance :—

Thana.	Death-rate per mille.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4
Sakulipur	(30·5)	.....	8·75 per cent.
Bolpur	(28 8)	.....	8·4 „
Labpur	(28·8)	8·8 per cent. ...	.....
Suri	(27·8)	0·4 „ ...	.....
Nalhati	(27·2)	10·3 „ ...	.....
Dubrajpur	(24·5)	.....	5·6 per cent.
Mayureshwar ...	(23·5)	6 0 per cent. ...	.....
Rampur Hát ...	(22·9)	6 4 „ ...	.....

14. For these reasons, I cannot help thinking that Mr. Batabyal's explanation of the results of the census is not the right one. The fact is that a decrease in population is to be found in the three southern *thanas* and nowhere else. But the heaviest death-rates do *not* fall in these three *thanas*, and the increase or decrease of population does not follow the death-rates.

15. What the true explanation is I do not know. It puzzles me why Labpur and Bolpur, each with the same death-rate, should show, the one an increase and the other a decrease, of about 8½ per cent. in population. I find it difficult indeed to account for the fact that Nalhati, with a death-rate of 27·2, shows an *increase* of 10 per cent., while Dubrajpur, with the smaller rate of 24½, shows a *decrease* of 5½ per cent.

16. The only explanation I can think of, I give with great diffidence. The case of Sakulipur may really be due to mortality. But as to Bolpur and Dubrajpur it is the fact that much of the former, and all the latter, has poor land for agriculture, and much of it very high land, and otherwise quite unfit for agriculture. Except agriculture there is no industry of the slightest importance there, and it cannot be highly remunerative. Just on the other side of the Ajai lies Raniganj, teeming with mines, and where a railroad to Purulia has been recently made. Might not this attract away many permanently from Bolpur and Dubrajpur? Also, is it not possible that, just in their off season, when there is no work to do in the fields, and just when the census was on, a great many agriculturists may have gone about to Raniganj for temporary jobs?

R. D'R.—Reg. No. 1148J—90—9-8-94.

DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

No. 356G., dated Bankura, the 26th April 1892.

From—F. H. BARROW, Esq., Magistrate of Bankura,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

WITH reference to your circular No. 6T.—F., dated the 3rd October 1891, I have the honour to submit the following report discussing the results of the recent census in the order of the draft heads suggested in the above circular.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF BANKURA, 1891.

HEAD I.—EARLY HISTORY, &c.

The district of Bankura is divided into two sub-divisions, viz., the Sadar and Vishnupur. The former comprises *thanas* Bankura, Gangajalghati, Onda, Khattra, Raipur and the independent outposts of Burjora and Simlapal. The latter consists of *thanas* Vishnupur, Sonamukhi, Kotalpur, and Indas. In 1872 the district comprised only the four *thanas* of Bankura, Gangajalghati, Onda, and Vishnupur. In October 1879 it was increased by the addition of *thanas* Raipur and Khattra received from Manbhum, and of *thanas* Sonamukhi, Kotalpur, and Indas received from Burdwan. Since 1881 there have been no changes in the boundaries of the district.

2. Sonthals, Khoyras, the Samantas, and Goals abound in the Sadar subdivision, while the subdivision of Vishnupur is inhabited by higher and more civilised classes of people, viz., Brahmans, Kayasthas, and Kshatriyas.

3. The indigenous divisions of the district are (1) Mullabhum, which embraces *pargana* Vishnupur, comprising the *thanas* of Bankura (excluding Chhatua), Onda, Vishnupur, Kotalpur, and Indas. In fact the whole tract of territory formerly held by the Mulla Raj of Vishnupur was known by that name; (2) Dhalbhum comprised in *thana* Khattra; (3) Samantabhum comprised in the outpost of Chhatua within the Bankura *thana;* (4) a portion of the Gangajalghati *thana*, known as Mohesra, is part of Sikarbhum, which was transferred long ago from Manbhum The south of *thana* Raipur goes by the name of Tungbhum. All the above except (1) are principal seats of the Southals and other aborginal tribes inhabiting the Sadar subdivision.

HEAD II.—MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION.

4. Appended is a table showing the population of the different *thanas* as also their areas as compared with the census figures for 1881:—

THANAS.	AREA IN SQUARE MILES.		MALES.		FEMALES.		TOTAL.		VARIATION PER CENT.	
	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sadar Subdivision.										
Bankura	332	332	69,299	69,676	64,252	70,025	127,501	140,601	10·23	...
Gangajalghati	300	300	54,450	58,405	56,909	59,416	111,359	117,821	5·80	...
Onda	329	329	58,873	60,609	60,448	61,604	119,321	122,273	2·47	...
Khatra	343	343	49,046	55,470	50,076	56,478	99,122	111,948	12·94	...
Raipur	333	333	47,191	50,173	48,311	52,169	95,502	102,342	6·83	.
Burjora independent outpost.	165	165	29,948	29,865	31,300	30,996	61,248	60,361	..	1·44
Simlapal independent outpost.	119	119	16,200	18,470	16,422	18,541	32,648	37,011	13·24	...
Total ...	1,921	1,921	319,067	342,228	328,018	350,129	647,085	692,357	6·90	Nil
Vishnupur Subdivision.										
Vishnupur	302	302	67,341	65,942	73,537	70,032	140,878	135,974	...	3·48
Sonamukhi	141	141	38,415	36,747	41,601	38,742	80,016	75,489	...	5·65
Kotalpur	133	133	46,012	44,450	48,952	46,802	94,964	91,252	...	3 91
Indas	124	124	37,301	36,574	41,508	38,022	78,809	74,596	...	5·34
Total ...	700	700	188,069	183,713	206,598	193,598	394,667	377,311	...	4·39
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,621	2,621	507,136	525,941	534,616	543,727	1,041,752	1,069,668	2·68	...

5. From the statement it will appear, that with the exception of the independent outpost of Burjora, the other *thanas* of the Sadar subdivision show an increase in the population, which in all is 7 per cent. over the census figures of 1881. The increase would have been more marked but for temporary migration to Eastern Bengal for employment at higher rates of wages at the time of enumeration, for it may be safely presumed that more persons thus emigrate now than ten years ago. On the other hand, the *thanas* composing the Vishnupur subdivision show a total decrease of 4·39 per cent. The decrease is attributable mainly to the prevalence of malarious fever and, to a small extent, to the temporary migration to the eastern districts in search of employment at higher rates of wages. The decrease in Burjora, which adjoins Sonamukhi (in the Vishnupur subdivision) is due to the same cause. The Sadar subdivision has physical features differing from most of the country forming the Vishnupur subdivision. The Sadar is mainly composed of

undulations with much still uncleared forest. The ridges afford healthy sites for the villages, and the inhabitants are to a large extent of the Sonthal race, whose hardiness and prolificness are proverbial. While in Vishnupur much of the land is rich loam perfectly flat, which, though able to support a numerous population, is generally favourable to the spread of fever and kindred diseases.

6. The towns of the district are (1) Bankura, (2) Vishnupur, and (3) Sonamukhi. The first two were included in this district at the time of the census of 1872, but Sonamukhi was received from Burdwan in October 1879. The following is a table giving the population of the towns:—

Names of Towns.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1	2	3	4
Bankura	9,282	9,461	18,743
Vishnupur	8,824	9,366	18,190
Sonamukhi	6,255	7,207	13,462
Total ...	24,361	26,034	50,395

The towns are inhabited mostly by traders and mechanics, whereas the principal characteristic of the rest of the district is agricultural.

7. As has been stated above, the labouring classes of the people migrate freely to the eastern districts for employment at higher wages, but their absence from home is only temporary. Besides these a large number proceeded to the tea gardens as free emigrants, but there is no means of knowing the exact extent of their number. That the number, however, is large, I have many means of knowing. It is chiefly the aboriginal and semi-aboriginal tribes who emigrate. These men, after securing their little stock of grain, leave home in the latter end of December and proceed to "Namal" or Eastern Bengal in quest of employment at higher rates of wages; and generally return with their savings before the rains set in to follow their pursuits at home. A considerable number of emigrants is also recruited from this district for employment in the tea gardens in Assam and other places. The total number recruited in 1890-91 under the Act was, however, only 229.

8. There has been no emigration of agriculturists or of the professional classes during the past ten years.

9. Immigration is rare in this district. The only cases are those of a few Marwaris from Rajputana and a few Cabulies and Kashmiris who come here and temporarily settle for purposes of trade, but their number is inconsiderable.

10. We have no mining centres here. The few small coal mines that we have here are worked by local labour in no way affecting the population. A good number of labourers, however, from the north work in the mines and factories at Raniganj.

11. From the returns of birthplace it appears that there are immigrations from 84 districts of India and from eight foreign countries, those of the neighbouring districts, viz., Midnapur, Manbhum, Burdwan, and Hooghly, preponderating over others.

12. Amongst the Beharis few come. These are mostly the poor agriculturists who engage in service chiefly as nagdis and peons under zamindars.

13. There is no converse migration so to speak, it being confined to a few pleaders.

Head III.—Varying Density of the Population.

14. The following statement gives the density of population in the several *thanas* of the district as compared with the census figures of 1881:—

Thanas.	Area.	Population.		Population per square mile.		Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
		1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sadar Subdivision.								
Bankura	332	127,551	140,601	384·19	423·49	39·30	...	
Gangajalghati	300	111,359	117,821	371·19	392·73	21·54	...	
Onda	329	119,321	122,273	362·67	371·65	8·98	...	
Khatra	343	99,122	111,948	290·15	326·38	36·23	...	
Raipur	333	95,802	102,342	287·69	307·33	19·64	...	
Burjora	165	61,248	60,361	371·20	365 82	...	5·38	
Simlapal	119	32,022	37,011	274·63	311·01	36·38	...	
Total ...	1,921	647,085	692,357	336·84	360·41	23·57	...	
Vishnupur Sub-division.								
Vishnupur	302	140,878	135,974	466·48	450·24	...	16·24	
Sonamukhi	141	80,016	75,489	567·48	535·38	...	32·10	
Kotalpur	133	94,964	91,252	714·01	685·65	...	28·36	
Indas	194	78,809	74,596	635·55	601·58	...	33·97	
Total ...	700	394,667	377,311	563·81	539·01	...	24·80	
Grand Total ...	2,621	1,041,752	1,069,668	397·46	408·11	10·65	...	

15. From the figures it will appear that, notwithstanding that there was a general decrease in population in the *thanas* comprising the Vishnupur subdivision, they still have a much greater density of population than the *thanas* in the Sadar. The reason of this I have already referred to, namely the richness of the land in the former, while most of the rest of the district is of a hilly and undulating character with much jungly tracts.

16. In the Vishnupur subdivision, again, we notice that the density of population varies considerably between the different *thanas*, while Kotalpur and Indas stand foremost; Vishnupur and Sonamukhi, which have larger areas, show much less population. The former two are alluvial flats with almost the entire area under cultivation, and therefore better adapted for agricultural settlement.

17. Sonamukhi stands next, and this is because it is the centre of the lac industry, which on an average gives direct employment to over 900 workpeople per diem.

18. Bankura and Vishnupur *thanas* are much the same in character, and their superior density of population over the remaining four *thanas* is owing to the existence of two towns in them, each with a population of over 18,000.

Head IV.—Religion.

19. The subjoined table gives the different religions prevalent in this district :—

Thanas.	Hindu.			Musulman.			Christian.			Brahmo.			Santhals.		
1	2			3			4			5			6		
	1872.	1881	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1881.	1872.	1881.	1891.
Sadar Subdivision.															
Bankura	...	112,044	122 268	...	3,857	3,745	...	39	77	...	...	13	...	11,610	14,404
Gangajalghati* ...	...	102,564	100,778	...	3,629	3,612	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	6,114	7,123
Onda	...	106,928	107,702	...	1,560	1,771	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	10,832	12,701
Khatra	...	83,506	92,047	...	1,309	1,302	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	14,215	17,144
Raipur	...	63,681	64,512	...	1,466	524	...	7	35	...	...	...	...	30,648	36,367
Simlapal independent outpost.	...	25,149	27,747	...	547	733	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,986	8,341
Total ...	...	554,264	561,954	...	12,368	11,777	...	47	114	...	...	15	...	80,405	96,170
Vishnupur Subdivision.															
Vishnupur	...	131,043	124,781	...	5,706	6,065	...	5	12	...	...	...	...	4,032	5,116
Sonamukhi	...	72,646	68,804	...	7,250	6,548	...	4	5	...	...	...	...	116	132
Indas	...	66,052	62,785	...	12,157	11,803	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	6
Kotalpur	...	86,240	82,049	...	8,701	9,118	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	84
Total ...	...	356,581	338,419	...	33,906	33,535	...	9	18	...	...	1	...	4,154	5,338
Grand Total ...	867,374	910,845	920,373	41,729	46,274	45,312	80	56	132	...	...	16	...	84,559	101,508

Thanas.	Bhumij.			Mudi.			Kora.			Kol.			Kheria.			Garo.			Har.			Dhangar.			Unspecified.			Madrasi.		
	7			8			9			10			11			12			13			14			15			16		
	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.
Sadar Subdivision.																														
Bankura	...	...	6	...	...	39	...	...	35	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gangajalghati	...	...	...	...	...	142	...	...	395	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	117	...	...	14	...	...	...
Onda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Khatra	...	...	...	...	...	149	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	236	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	...	...	...
Raipur	...	...	...	...	...	186	...	...	387	...	...	...	...	...	267	...	...	49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	1
Simlapal independent outpost.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	155	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	6	...	...	516	...	...	872	...	...	19	...	...	503	...	...	49	...	...	155	...	...	117	...	...	88	...	...	1
Vishnupur Subdivision.																														
Vishnupur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sonamukhi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kotalpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	...	...	6	...	...	516	...	...	872	...	...	19	...	...	503	...	...	49	...	...	155	...	...	117	...	...	88	...	...	1

* Includes Burjora independent outpost.

Remarks.—Besides the Hindus, Musulmans, and Christians, there was a population of 59,414 in the census records of 1872 under one common head "All others."

20 The almost entire population of the district is divided between Hindus, Mussulmans, and Sonthals, the other religions forming but an insignificant fraction of the whole.

21. There has been a marked increase in the number of the adherents of Hinduism as compared with the number for 1881. A very marked fact brought out by the census figures is the very slight increase of Hindus, viz., about 1 per cent., compared with that of the Sonthals, which is 20 per cent. The Muhammadans decreased by about 2 per cent. Roughly speaking the Hindus represent nearly nine-tenths of the population, the Sonthals nearly one-tenth, and the Muhammadans nearly one-twentieth; so that nearly the whole increase is due to the Sonthals. No one who has seen a Sonthal village and witnessed the swarms of healthy young children could be surprised at this. Considering also that emigrants are much drawn from this race, the actual increase must be much greater than is shown. Another very hardy class of people are the Bauris, but, as far as I can make out, they have been included as Hindus in the abstracts sent us. If so, I shall not be at all surprised if they contribute nearly the whole increase amongst Hindus. Sonthals and Bauris are said not to suffer from fever and other diseases to so great an extent as the better castes of Hindus. The causes no doubt are the healthier lives they live and their stronger diet, which often consists of fowls, goats, and amongst the Bauris of pigs.

22. I have not received yet the figures for castes which might throw some fresh light on such facts.

23. The slight decrease in the Muhammadan population since 1881 is due to the prevalence of malarious fever in the Vishnupur subdivision, where only the number of the Mussulmans is large.

Head V.—Infirmities.

24. The subjoined table gives the infirmities of the districts, *thana* by *thana*, with totals for 1881 :—

Thanas.	Insane.		Blind.		Deaf and Mute.		Leper.	
	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sadar Subdivision.								
Bankura	...	66	...	220	...	175	...	622
Gangajalghati	...	44	...	192	...	150	...	783
Onda	...	51	...	193	...	157	...	414
Khatra	...	27	...	161	...	152	...	291
Raipur	...	36	...	129	...	118	...	161
Burjora independent outpost ...	...	24	...	100	...	66	...	338
Simlapal ditto ...	...	18	...	61	...	54	...	74
Total ...	...	266	...	1,056	...	872	...	2,683
Vishnupur Subdivision.								
Vishnupur	...	82	...	236	...	192	...	557
Sonamukhi	...	83	...	122	...	120	...	334
Kotalpur	...	22	...	44	...	55	...	140
Indas	...	42	...	91	...	92	...	179
Total ...	...	179	...	493	...	459	...	1,210
Grand Total ...	489	445	1,728	1,549	1,561	1,331	3,877	3,893

25. Infirmity from leprosy is the largest in the district. The number is highest in *thana* Gangajalghati. It is also large in *thana* Bankura.

Insanity, blindness, and deafness are equally found among all classes, but leprosy prevails among the labouring classes, and chiefly among the Bauris, the Muhammadans, and the aboriginal tribes.

Persons affected with white leprosy were not counted as lepers by the enumerators. There was no definition of insanity in the instructions issued to the enumerators. Persons of unsound mind were noted down as insane.

People believe leprosy to be contagious and hereditary. Excessive use of unwholesome meat is believed by some to be the principal cause of the origin of the disease, and the large number of lepers among the Bauris, the Muhammadans, &c., who consume meat, is advanced as evidence of the above statement.

From my personal observation skin diseases appear much more numerous here than in other parts of Bengal, the cause no doubt being the great scarcity of green vegetables. This might lead up to leprous diseases.

Head VI.—Education.

26. The following tables show the progress of education in the district compared with the year 1881. No comparison of the figures for 1872 is possible, as the district before October 1879 was much smaller than now as I have explained elsewhere in the report :—

Comparative Statement No. 1 *of Census figures on Education for* 1881 *and* 1891.

Religion.	1881.						1891.					
	Pupils.			Literate.			Pupils.			Literate.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Hindus	29,277	438	29,715	52,095	375	52,470	28,259	757	29,016	65,141	1,028	66,169
Muhammadans ...	1,106	63	1,169	1,837	22	1,859	1,053	30	1,083	2,343	48	2,391
Christians	4	2	6	15	11	26	22	25	47	34	20	54
Dhangar	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Brahmos	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	8	1	9
Sonthals	...	...	...	...	...	...	262	4	266	378	3	381
All others	212	4	216	186	1	187	.	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	30,599	507	31,106	54,133	409	54,542	29,600	816	30,416	67,904	1,100	69,004

Statement No. 2 *showing the number of schools and scholars as furnished by the Education Department for the years* 1881 *and* 1891.

Class of Education.	Class of schools.	1880-81.		1890-91.	
		Number of schools.	Number of scholars.	Number of schools.	Number of scholars.
1	2	3	4	5	6
English education ...	High English ...	6	893	7	911
	Middle English ...	15	770	24	1,293
	Total ...	21	1,663	31	2,204
Vernacular education ...	Middle Vernacular ...	22	1,160	66	2,534
	Primary ditto ...	1,280	29,822	1,379	33,630
	Total ...	1,302	30,982	1,443	36,164
Special education ...	Guru-training class ...	...	...	8	51
	Training schools ...	...	...	2	43
	Other special schools ...	..	...	3	68
	Total ...	...	...	13	162
Indigenous education ...	Tols, &c.	87	598	47	527
	Grand Total ...	1,410	33,243	1,534	39,057

27. Table No. 1 shows the number of children of all religions under tuition. According to it there were 31,106 children under instruction in 1881 as compared with 30,416 in 1891, showing a decrease of 690 children. Thus the proportion of the scholars to the total population, excluding the literates, was 3 per cent. as against 3·2 per cent. in 1881. This decrease (if accepted) can hardly be accounted for except on the ground that education is chiefly confined to the higher castes and is almost unknown among such numerous castes as the Sonthals, Bauris, Bagdis, &c., but the higher castes have decreased, while the lower ones have considerably increased, so that the area of education has been practically lessened. Thus there has been an increase of more than 20 per cent. among the Sonthals and Bhumijs (kindred castes), who form one-eighth of the population, and of 4·3 per cent. among the Bauris, who also form nearly one-eighth, so that one-fourth of the population among whom there is little or no education is extremely backward and has of course increased without any corresponding increase in education. The other low castes, who form about one quarter of the population, have also increased, though not to the same extent as the aboriginal classes. This may also be taken to account for the decrease in the numbers of children under education. Taking those of school-going age as 15 per cent. of the population, the number of scholars would be one-fifth of the school-going population.

28. The number of persons returned as able to read and write was 69,004 in 1891 as compared with 54,542 in 1881. This increase seems inconsistent with the decrease shown in the number of scholars, and I am therefore of opinion that the census figures as regards scholars are incorrect.

29. Turning to the statistics as obtained from the Education Department (Statement No. 2), we find an excess of 5,814 pupils over the numbers of 1881. As regards those "Under education," I think the figures of the Education Department must be taken as more reliable; for otherwise how could there be such a marked increase in the literate population.

30. From the census figures we have no means of gauging the progress of English education. We have, according to the figures of the census, 1,691 persons in the district who can read and write English in addition to the pupils in the schools for whom separate figures are not available. For 1881 we have no census figures. From the statistics furnished by the Education Department we see that English education has made a steady advance during the ten years. For, while there were 1,603 pupils in 1881, there are now no less than 2,204 pupils. The results of the examinations will bear out the same view. In 1881 out of 53 candidates who appeared at the Entrance and Minor Scholarship Examinations 33 passed, while in 1891 52 passed out of 130 candidates. English education is, however, confined almost entirely to the well-to-do and upper classes of society in the chief towns and large villages. They generally belong to the following castes:—Brahmans, Kayasthas, Subarnabaniks, and Sadgops. The four *thanas* of Vishnupur contribute the major part of these scholars, the *thanas* in the Sadar being inhabited chiefly by backward castes.

31. Judging from the number of persons who can read and write the vernacular only, we notice a marked progress in the vernacular education, including the primary or mass education. The figures for the two years for vernacular education may be thus roughly estimated, taking it for granted that the number who could read and write English in 1881 was almost the same as in 1891:—

1881.			1891.		
Pupils.	Literate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6
29,443	52,741	82,184	28,212	67,203	95,415

That progress has been substantial in the vernacular education is further evidenced by the result of the scholarship examination. For, while in 1881, 785 candidates competed for different scholarship examinations, of whom 101 passed, in 1891, 783 passed out of 2,028 appearing.

32. As regards female education the census shows 816 girls at school in 1891 as compared with 507 in 1881. There were also 1,100 females who can read and write in 1891 against 409 in 1881. The above analysis will show that the education of females is making fair progress in the district. But again as in the case of male education, the Educational Department shows very different figures from those of the census for pupils. The department's figure of 4,249 girls (or more than double the census one) can only be ascribed to the professional exaggeration which has included all the toddling infants who are pressed into the classes when an Inspecting Officer comes round. However, the figures furnished by the department, in so far as they show a very marked improvement, can, I think, be accepted, as it is fully supported by the result of the examinations and by the increase of the female literates. In 1891 one girl for the first time appeared at the middle vernacular, but was plucked; 12 at the upper primary, 8 being successful; 12 passed the lower primary out of 15 competing; while in 1881 no girls appeared to have passed any of the above examinations.

33. Among the Muhammadans the same phenomena appear as among the Hindus, namely, a decrease of pupils and an increase of literates. But the Education Department again shows a considerable increase in pupils, and I have no doubt that this is a fact, and that the results of the census as regards persons under instruction must be regarded a complete failure. However, I have not the advantage of seeing the figures for the various *thanas*. It is possible that some arithmetical errors have been made, and that hereafter the accuracy of the details of the census in this respect may be vindicated.

34. As regards the education of the aboriginal tribes, we see that there were 266 pupils in 1891 as compared with 216 entered against all others, including the Santhals in 1881. The total number of Santhals who can read and write is also 381 against 187 in 1881. This no doubt shows a fair progress, which is borne out by the fact that two Santhal boys passed the middle vernacular scholarship examination in 1891—a fact unknown before.

There has now been established a special institution for the training of Santhal teachers under the Wesleyan Mission Society, which has on its roll 22 pupils. This school is well calculated to advance education among the aboriginal tribes, which, however, will of course always remain backward.

Head VII.—Language.

35. The following are the languages returned as spoken in the district:—

1. Bengali.
2. Hindi.
3. Valya.
4. Pashtu.
5. Santhali.
6. Uriya.
7. Kabuli.
8. Urdu.
9. Kheria-kora.
10. Kheria.
11. Nagri.
12. English.
13. Thar.
14. Kol.
15. Parsi.
16. Panjabi.
17. Kashmiri.
18. Hodra.
19. Mohali.
20. Draviri.
21. Manipuri.
22. Kora.
23. Madrasi.
24. Telegu.

Of the above languages Nos. 1, 2, and 5 are largely spoken. About 90 per cent. the population speak Bengali, about 46 per cent Hindi, and 9 per cent. Sonthali.

36. I append a table giving the languages spoken as compared with the census figures for 1881:—

Thanas.	Bengali.		Hindi.		Valya.		Pashtu.		Sonthali.		Urya.		Kabuli.		Urdu.		Kheria-kora.		Khoria.	
	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10	
	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.
Sadar Subdivision.																				
Bankura	...	120,357	...	851	...	...	...	1	...	13,095	...	80	...	...	...	15	...	58	...	...
Onda	...	109,753	...	231	...	...	...	...	...	12,233	...	21	...	1	...	2	...	12	...	...
Gangajalghati	...	108,364	...	1,206	...	...	...	...	...	7,041	...	120	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Khatra	...	96,014	...	242	..	...	...	3	...	15,577	...	7	...	1	...	7	...	20	...	77
Raipur	...	60,388	...	381	...	...	...	...	...	34,980	...	114	...	...	...	37	...	304	...	70
Simlapal outpost ...	...	28,549	...	75	...	...	...	...	...	8,208	...	81	...	...	...	...	...	35	...	...
Burjora ditto	...	60,218	...	60	...	...	...	1	..	60	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vishnupur Subdivision.																				
Vishnupur	...	130,619	...	374	...	9	...	6	...	4,932	...	18	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...
Sonamukhi	...	75,147	...	195	...	...	...	...	...	125	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kotalpur	...	89,707	...	1,096	...	...	...	...	...	112	...	32	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...
Indas	...	74,411	...	115	...	...	...	1	...	18	...	47	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	952,361	965,527	5,027	4,886	...	9	24	12	82,157	96,359	382	487	...	3	...	103	...	429	...	156

	Nagri.		English.		Telegu.		Thar.		Kol.		Parsi.		Panjabi.		Kashmiri.		Hodra.		Mohali.		Draviri.		Manipuri.		Kora.		Mudrasi.	
	11		12		13		14		15		16		17		18		19		20		21		22		23		24	
	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.
Sadar Subdivision.																												
Bankura	...	147	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Onda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gangajalghati	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	164	...	1	...	1	...	830	...	...	...
Khatra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Raipur	...	22	..	4	...	...	...	123	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Simlapal outpost ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Burjora ditto ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vishnupur Subdivision.																												
Vishnupur	...	15	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sonamukhi	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kotalpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indas	...	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	...	184	23	23	...	1	...	123	854	5	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	7	..	164	...	1	...	1	...	830	...	1

Note.—(1) In the census report of 1881 Urdu was included in Hindi.
(2) Besides the languages above shown, the report for 1881 shows other languages, viz., unspecified (108), Uraon (11), Munda (23), French (1), Arabic (56), Persian (17).

Languages Nos. 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 14, 18, 19, and 22 are speeches of the aboriginal tribes with slight differences.

Head VIII.—Castes.*

37. The castes most considerable in point of numbers are those formed from the aboriginal tribes, among whom the principal are the Sonthals and Bauris. These people, as has been stated in my former report, chiefly inhabit the Sadar subdivision, although a few of them can be found here and there in the subdivision of Vishnupur. There is no history of the settlement of the civilised castes in the district of Bankura. The whole land was originally included in the possession of the Vishnupur Raja (of Khatri descent), by whom portions were allotted to his subordinate Chiefs for the protection of the frontiers against enemies. The descendants of these Chiefs are zamindars, but are locally termed Rajas by their tenants (although not recognized by Government), and are mostly of Khatri origin, some of them being styled Dholla, Samanta, &c. The Vishnupur Raja was of Malla descent, and his possessions accordingly came to be called by the name Mallabhum. These Chiefs held sway over the aboriginal tribes and were indeed useful auxiliaries to the Vishnupur Raja in driving out the Mahrattas and other hordes of invaders. The proprietorship of most of the big zamindaris originally rested, and still rests, with the Khatrias; for, although with the dissolution of the Vishnupur Raj the property in the immediate possession of the Raja passed into the hands of the Burdwan Raj, all the large fiefs continued as before, and remain still, under the Khatrias or their representatives in interest.

38. In the Sadar subdivision the upper and middle tenures of choice value were at first in the hands of the relatives and kinsmen of the zamindars, but to a very large extent these men have transferred their holdings to money-lenders and others, and are now consequently frequently in great distress. The zamindars in their turn did not fare better. Their impover-

* *Vide* letter No. 3000., dated 18th March 1893 from F. H. Barrow, Esq., Magistrate of Bankura.

ished condition has compelled most of them to mortgage their zamindaris, and in some cases to sell portions to liquidate their debts.

39. The subdivision of Vishnupur is inhabited mostly by the higher castes, and is consequently more advanced than the Sadar subdivision. Brahmans and other high castes also inhabit the Sadar sub-division, but not in so large a proportion as in the Vishnupur sub-division. The Sonthals and other aboriginal tribes live towards the south and west of the Sadar subdivision.

40. As regards the migration of castes, I do not think there was any save amongst the Sonthals who have been in the habit of changing their dwellings very frequently. But in no instances have they been found to migrate to the Vishnupur subdivision, where, according to their notion, there exists no field for them. Born and bred in dense jungle, their chief occupation, besides hunting, is the gradual reclamation of the jungle land, to which work they assiduously adhere till they are ousted from it by their more clever and prudent Hindu neighbours, who, when they find that the lands the Sonthals have broken up have attained the desired point of tillage, demand of them an exorbitant rent, or otherwise compel them to leave their houses and betake themselves to fresh jungle, where they are subsequently no better treated. Of late, however, they are growing more tenacious of their rights and form permanent settlements.

41. The Poddars only amongst the numerous Hindu castes had set up any claims to social precedence during the taking of census. They held meetings, it is said, in different parts of the district, and in some places caused themselves to be entered as Vaisyas in the census schedules. Their claim, however, at last fell through, as the Superintendent of Census on a reference held that Subarnabaniks cannot be called Vaisyas.

42. It is, however, a fact worthy of notice that the Lohars (a caste similar to Bagdis) are gradually progressing. They show by their acts that they are intensely ambitious to improve their social status without publicly crying out for social precedence. Education is now gradually spreading itself among them, and they are often found to take a great interest in the observance of the simple Hindu rites and ceremonies. Their love for *Hari sankirtan* is gradually bringing them in close contact with the higher castes. I may also mention that the Poddars supply a great number of enterprising men, as many of them undertake work of agricultural improvement which the other castes are very slow to do.

43. Appended is a list of the principal castes prevailing in the district arranged in the order of social precedence with notes as to population and the relations they bear to the soil so far as these could be collected:—

Statement of main castes as elicited in the Census of 1891

Castes.	Population.	Names of local groupings.	Relations of caste to the land.
1	2	3	4
Brahmans	85,002	...	Rent-free tenure-holders.
Bhatta, Bhat, and Rout ...	733	...	
Kshatriya (Rajput)			
Dhalla ... 75			
Khatri ... 3,770			
Chhetri ... 16,766	25,855	...	Zamindars and upper tenure-holders.
Samanta ... 5,203			
Sur ... 41			
Baidya	3,451	...	Upper tenure-holders.
Vaisya	1,993		
Kayasth	18,494	...	Talukdars and upper tenure-holders.
Ugra Kshatri	10,936	...	Tenure-holders.
Sadgop	45,747		Talukdars, mukraridars, but generally cultivating raiyats.
Tambuli	16,707		
Napit	11,655	These castes pass by the name of Nava-sákhas.	
Karmakar	19,690		
Modak	6,007		
Kumhar	9,496		
Teli	92,197		Cultivating raiyats.
Malakar	754		
Barui	2,911		
Benia	25,066		
Tanti	30,298		
Sankari	768		
Chhutar	6,050		
Kahar	99		
Goala	62,062		
Poddar and Subarnabanik ...	8,395		
Sarnakar	466		
Vaishnava and other religious devotees.	20,000		
Kaibartta, Jelia, subdivided into—			
(*a*) Chasi ...	1,216		
(*b*) Fishing ...	21,281		

Castes.	Population.	Names of local groupings.	Relations of castes to the land.
1	2	3	4
Kalu	21,658		
Dhobi	4,297		
Koranga or Korga	942		
Lohar	21,459		
Khoyra	28,359		
Jugi	500		
Bagdi	49,729		
Baiti	607		
Toilangi or Telga	187		
Sunri	22,265		
Mal	12,958		
Namasudra	1,695		
Muchi	10,877		
Dom	18,048		
Hari	6,725		
Bedia	197		
Pakmara	70		
Bauri	123,197		
Castes formed of aboriginal tribes returned as Hindus.			
Kurmi	13,724		
Bhuiya or Bhumij	24,279		
Kora	4,746		
Uraon	12		

44. The castes entered in the schedules by the enumerators are not in all cases the main castes. Sub-castes have crept in and have become mixed up with the main castes, making the caste table a lengthy one. Besides there is mention of some castes of which no trace could be found. It is clear therefore that the enumerators used no discretion, but made entries of castes as they were verbally returned by the people. The census rules indeed required them to make entries of castes and religion according as each individual chose to return himself, but they could have put down the main castes when palpably they could know that the castes returned were sub-castes. But this state of things is unavoidable in a district like this where the enumerators themselves in most cases were not properly trained men with sufficient insight into the details of castes and religion.

Head IX.—Occupations.

45. Annexed is a statement of the different groupings of castes according to occupation. Annexed is also another statement showing the comparative figures for 1881 and 1891 under the different heads of occupation. The census tables for 1881 do not furnish the figures in detail in respect of all the occupations, and therefore a careful comparison and discussion thereof are out of the question. It will, however, be seen that the population following agricultural pursuits forms the greatest bulk. Next to it are field labourers who number about 120,000. Cotton weavers come next, and their number is not inconsiderable. The other occupations are insignificant. The most striking difference between the figures for land occupation with the marginally noted details and those entered under the broad term "agriculturists" in the census table for 1881 cannot be reconciled, except so far that the agricultural class in the previous census included only those who actually carried on agriculture, and not those in the upper classes who are connected with the land.

Land occupants (cultivating).
Ditto (not cultivating).
Tenants, sharers (cultivating).
Ditto (not cultivating).

Statement of occupations carrying a population of 1,000 *and upwards.*

Occupations.	Population during 1891.	Population during 1881.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4
Tenants and sharers (cultivating)	491,912	...	
Field labourers	119,508	87,867	
Cotton weavers	31,249	21,492	
Fishermen	22,456	...	
Land occupants (cultivating)	21,048	198,385	Entered under the broad term of "agriculturists."
Watchmen	18,392	...	
Rice pounders	18,066	...	
Herdsmen	15,460	1,775	
Service (unspecified)	5,280	...	

Statement of occupations carrying a population of 1,000 *and upwards*—concluded.

Occupations.	Population during 1891.	Population during 1881.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4
Tenants (not cultivating)	14,041	...	
Oil pressers and sellers	12,442	...	
Mendicants	11,970	...	
Shopkeepers (unspecified)	10,223	...	
Land occupants (not cultivating)	8,031	...	
Timber and bamboo agents and dealers ...	7,668	...	
Grocers and general condiment dealers ...	7,553	...	
Potters	6,895	2,723	
Barbers	6,098	...	
General merchants	6,027	8,252	
Blacksmiths	6,027	1,770	
Priests, missionaries, &c.	5,610	3,698	
Cow and buffalo keepers	5,599	...	
Grain parchers	4,575	...	
Indoor servants	4,296	13,106	
Shoemakers	5,243	...	
Basket weavers	3,929	...	
Gold and silver-workers	3,740	709	
Bead-makers	3,577	...	
Teachers, principals, &c.	3,103	976	
Brasspot-makers and sellers	2,722	...	
Practitioners (without diploma)	2,201	...	
Messengers (unspecified)	2,026	394	
Mat-makers and sellers	2,638	...	
Carpenters	2,142	5,050	
Brass-workers and sellers	2,073	1,739	
Persons enjoying allowances from patrons and relatives.	2,042	...	
Cart-owners and drivers	1,974	...	
Washermen	1,995	...	
Confectioners	1,927	...	
Betel-sellers	2,456	...	
Agents, managers of landed estates ...	1,758	...	
Firewood-sellers	1,640	...	
Bandmasters (not military)	1,513	...	
Money-lenders	2,007	...	
Cattle-breeders and dealers	1,586	...	
Grain-dealers	1,963	...	
Bamboo and rattan workers	1,468	3,931	
Piecegoods-dealers	1,468	...	
Silk carders and spinners	1,300	...	
Cow-dung fuel preparers	1,123	...	
Tobacco-sellers	1,307	...	
Land manager's clerks	1,375	...	
Messengers, constables, &c.	1,047	..	
Cooks	1,018	...	
Stationers	1,040	...	
Palki-bearers	1,088	...	

46. No explanation can also be submitted as to the divergences noticeable under other heads of occupation, some of which are very marked. I believe that the last census (1891) approaches nearer to the true state of things than that of 1881.

47. The women of the families of the higher castes follow no particular occupation, and their sole duty is house-keeping. The women of the lower castes have often, besides house-keeping, to follow some special occupation for their maintenance, for they early have to support numerous children, that the little earnings of the male member of the family fall short of the actual requirements. The occupation generally followed by them is that of the father or husband. Of the numerous castes that depend upon their women to earn a living for their family, the weavers occupy the foremost place. Theirs is a business which involves much detail, and as the profits are very small, every available member of the family is early pressed into service.

48. The women of the following castes assist their husbands in agricultural and industrial pursuits:—

1. Tanti.
2. Chasa.
3. Napit.
4. Kumar.
5. Keot or Jelia.
6. Malakar.
7. Goala.
8. Jugi.
9. Kalu.
10. Dhoba.
11. Bagdi, Lohar, Khoyra.
12. Dom.
13. Muchi.
14. Hari.
15. Bauri.
16. Teli.

The women of castes Nos. 2, 3, and 16 attend on the wealthier classes and are employed as higher class domestics. Bagdi women serve in inferior menial capacities.

Bauri women are employed in carrying loads, collecting grass and sticks, and in weeding in the rainy season. Hari women are mostly employed as mehtranis.

49. *Groupings of castes according to heads prescribed by Government.*

(A) AGRICULTURAL GROUPS—

(1) *Zamindars*—
- (a) Kshatriya (Malla, Dhalla, Samanta, &c.)

(2) *Mokaridars and Talukdars*—
- (a) Kayasthas.
- (b) Sadgop.

(3) *Lakhirajdars*—
- (a) Brahmans.

(4) *Cultivating raiyats*—
- (a) Teli.
- (b) Sadgop.

(B) PROFESSIONAL GROUPS—

(1) *Priests*—
- (a) Brahmans.
- (b) Missionaries.

(2) *Pleaders and Mukhtears*—
- (a) Brahmans.
- (b) Kayasthas.
- (c) Benia.
- (d) Sadgop.
- (e) Vaishnavas.
- (f) Baidyas.

(3) *Doctors*—
- (a) Brahmans.
- (b) Kayasthas.
- (c) Subarnabanik.
- (d) Benia.

(C) COMMERCIAL GROUPS—

(1) *Money-lenders*—
- (a) Brahmans.
- (b) Kayasthas.
- (c) Sadgop.
- (d) Tambuli.
- (e) Subarnabanik.

(2) *Wholesale dealers*—
- (a) Tambuli.
- (b) Benia.

(D) ARTISANS—

(1) *Fabrics and dress stuffs*—
- (a) Tanti.

(2) *Food and drink*—
- (a) Modak.

(3) *Animal substances*—
- (a) Sankhabanik (Sankhari).

(4) *Vegetable substances*—
- (a) Barui.

(5) *Mineral substances*—
- (a) Blacksmith.
- (b) Poddar.
- (c) Kumhar.

(E) PASTORAL GROUPS—
- (a) Goala.
- (b) Bauris (to some extent).

(F) HUNTING AND FISHING GROUPS—

Hunting—
- (a) Southals.
- (b) Kurmis.
- (c) Bhumij.
- (d) Kol.

Fishing—
- (a) Kewat.
- (b) Jelia.
- (c) Metia.
- (d) Khoyra.

(G) SERVING GROUPS—
- (a) Napit.
- (b) Dhoba.
- (c) Bauris.
- (d) Bagdis.
- (e) Lohar.

(H) UNPRODUCTIVE GROUPS—

(1) *Astrologers*—
- (a) Daibajnas, called also Ganaka, Grohabipra, and Debak.

(2) *Dancers and Singers*—
- (a) Vaishnava.

(3) *Jugglers, Snake-Charmers and Animal exhibitors*—
- (a) Bedia.
- (b) Mal.

(4) *Musicians and Ballad Singers*—
- (a) Bhat or Bhotto.
- (b) Vaishnava.

HEAD X.—ADMINISTRATIVE.

I. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) Points in which the general instructions were departed from with reasons for doing so.

50. The general instructions issued by the Census Superintendent from time to time were carefully attended to in every instance. Whenever necessary, the circulars were translated into vernacular and sent to the charge Superintendents for guidance. Instructions were also issued from my office to charge Superintendents and supervisors to familiarize them with their work and to clear up their difficulties.

(b) The definition of a village.

Except in the cases of the municipal towns, each of which consists of several *mauzas*, all the inhabited *mauzas* of the district have been treated as separate villages, however contiguous they are to one another, and whatever might be the number of houses in each of them. This was done to avoid confusion, as they were treated as such during the census of 1881.

Where several groups of houses occupied one *mauza* area, they have been dealt with as one village, except where they were so large and distant from one another as to form in themselves true villages.

(c) The definition of a house.

The definition of a house, as given in the second instruction to supervisors, was duly followed. Temples, mosques, *serais*, &c., were treated as separate houses when not situated within the compound of the dwelling-houses. In the case of joint families, separate messing formed the test for the determination of the number of houses.

(d) The size of the charge or sub-charge.

The three municipal towns, the nine police stations, the two independent outposts, and one dependent outpost were formed into charges. While the remaining seven subordinate outposts were created sub-charges.

(e) The size of a circle.

The circles were arranged to contain as nearly as possible 500 houses. In some cases there were deviations to suit the physical conditions of the district. But such instances were rare.

(f) The size of a block.

In municipalities and in large villages, 50 houses composed a block. In minor villages, the number varied, and the houses were divided according to convenience, and to suit the instructions received from the Census Superintendent's office about schedules.

(g) The numbering of houses; its probable actual cost, how much was paid by the Magistrate's office, and on whom any expenditure above that amount fell.

The numbering of houses was chiefly done with *bhelai* oil. In the municipalities and in a few of the big villages only coal-tar was used. The *bhelai* oil is easily procurable, and is quite inexpensive. The total cost of numbering may be estimated at Rs. 25. Nothing had to be paid from my office towards this expenditure. In municipalities the Commissioners bore the cost. In the mufassal the supervisors and enumerators procured for themselves *bhelai* oil, and where coal-tar was used, paid for it. But the expenses thus incurred were so very small, that no one thought it worth his while to send a bill for them.

(h) The practicability of a permanent numbering of houses, and how the cost should be borne.

I see no difficulty of a permanent numbering of houses if it be done by *panchayats* under the *chaukidari* law, and if the *chaukidari* law be amended so as to bring all villages under assessment. The numbering of the houses would then, however, only be quasi-permanent, as there must always be changes going on. And in the case of the lower castes, these changes are extremely frequent. The work of numbering therefore must be performed by a living and active agency. I have again and again recommended that *thanas* should be divided into *chaukidari* circles with about 20 *chaukidars*, which would give about 1,000 houses. If no village was exempted from the *chaukidari* assessment, there would be a complete list of houses, and a permanent numbering of houses would then be part of the system. There would of course be no cost at all.

II. Agency.

(a) The classes from which the supervisors and enumerators were derived.

51. The supervisors and enumerators were chiefly landholders and men of local influence and position. In some cases teachers of schools and *gurus* of *patshalas* were appointed.

(b) Whether their duties were willingly undertaken.

They undertook their work willingly and showed much earnestness and zeal.

(c) How many prosecutions were there, nd for what cause.

There were in all four prosecutions, viz., two for not accepting the *parwanas*, and two for subsequent negligence.

(d) Whether their duties involved any pecuniary expenditure, and how much.

With the exception of a few sheets of paper, some ink and pen, the supervisors and the enumerators expended nothing. Nothing was paid, nor was anything demanded.

(e) If any paid census officers employed. What was the reason, and what was the cost.

There was no occasion for appointing paid census officers. The charge Superintendents acting under instructions from the Sadar managed everything.

III. Attitude of the People.

What rumours were in circulation and what erroneous ideas were current.

52. The attitude of the people was throughout friendly. Petty rumours about the imposition of a poll-tax were afloat here and there in the beginning, but they soon died away. The several inspecting officers deputed by me to watch the progress of the work took early measures to contradict such rumours by explaining to the people the object of the census.

IV. Results.

Opinion of their correctness. Summary discussion of any increase or decrease in population in the *thanas* of the district.

53. The results seem to be on the whole correct. While the *thanas* of the Sadar subdivision show an average increase of about 6 per cent. over the population of 1881, those of Vishnupur show a decrease of about 5 per cent. This decrease is spread over all the *thanas* of that subdivision. It is mainly due to the prevalence of malarious fever which raged for some years after the census of 1881, and also to the increase of temporary emigration of the people for work into the central and eastern districts of the province. This emigration has also affected to some extent the population of the Sadar subdivision. Many people go out for work in the months of January and February, and do not come back till the rains have commenced. For about six months they remain away from their homes.

54. The south-western portion of the Sadar subdivision consisting of *thanas* Raipur, Simlapal, Khatra, and Bankura is the healthiest part of the district, and these thus show the largest amount of increase. On the other hand, in *thanas* Gangajalghati and Onda, which border on Vishnupur subdivision, and which possess a less healthy climate, the increase is comparatively small.

Of the Vishnupur *thanas*, Sonamukhi and Indas show the largest decrease. This is to be accounted for by the fact that while in the former scarcity prevailed for years, in the latter the ravages done by fever were very great. Emigration also, I think, is more prevalent in the *thanas* bordering on Burdwan. but of this, I am not quite sure.

55. But while the result is, I think, generally correct in its details, I do not think it is. I consider that any conclusions drawn from the ages given will be altogether fallacious. In one instance, the night before the census I found a mother and son entered as the same age. Many other absurd instances of age calculation came to my notice. In two instances I even found males entered as females or *vice versâ* (I forget which). Amongst the low castes, such as Bauris, Santhals, &c, the crowding in small houses was so great, that I fear the schedules are inaccurate, at least I often found mistakes in testing them.

56. All these mistakes I consider inseparable from a census under present circumstances. The best that was possible has been done. The various Government officers as a rule gave much time to helping in the work, and many took great interest. Finally, I wish to record the great zeal and efficiency of superintendence shown by Babu Gati Krishna Neogi, Deputy Magistrate, whom I placed in charge of the department. I doubt if more could possibly have been done than he did. My duties kept me out in camp nearly all the cold season, and so the whole superintendence from head-quarters depended on him.

57. I am not myself sufficiently conversant with the details to be able to give a personal opinion, but my office supplies me with the following note.

58. The administration of the whole work was in the hands of the Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal, who directed them in minute detail from Calcutta. His estimate of the daily task that had to be exacted from the abstractors was not high or unreasonable, and all abstractors cheerfully worked up to the mark. In tabulation, however, the task seemed to be somewhat high, and the Superintendent of Census subsequently very wisely reduced it to 40 blocks a day.

59. It is desirable, of course, that the pay of the abstractors should be increased to Rs. 18, for in that case we can expect English-knowing and deserving men to take up the posts. It would not be a bad policy to keep back a portion of their pay, say one fourth, till their work is examined. This would make the abstractors and the tabulators more careful in their work.

60. However careful we may be in getting correct work from the abstractors, reabstraction with the aid of the adjustment clerks is absolutely necessary. This, however, was sanctioned by the Superintendent of Census Operations later on.

61. There is much advantage gained from a wise selection of the room-supervisors and the Assistant Inspectors. If the former would but devote their careful attention to their work, which Government can fairly expect at their hands by reason of the handsome salaries given to them, there would be very little occasion for reabstraction. Abstraction, reabstraction, and tabulation are for the first time carried on in the district offices, and people were generally employed without any previous training. Reabstraction was consequently needed to a larger extent in the beginning than in the advanced stage of abstraction.

62. The test-slips should, when the tabulation is over, be bound in books one for each *thana*, and carefully preserved.

63. The test-slip clerks are overworked. One for each gang of abstractors is not adequate, for it often happened that these men had to work beyond the office hours to perform the daily task demanded of them.

64. Separate establishment is besides needed to prepare the *thana* totals, for the same cannot conveniently be done by the Inspector along with the tabulation. One thing we should keep uppermost in our view in order to secure a good result, and it is to keep the Inspector free to devote his time more to the supervision than to the performance of any large amount of clerical work. It should be his principal duty to check at least 10 per cent. of work in each room.

65. The imposition of fines for errors discovered is a good thing after all to keep the abstractors and other fully awake to their work. But I think that the district officers should have power to use their discretion in inflicting the fines. There is nothing which more estranges a man's mind from work than the knowledge that a portion of his hard-earned earnings has been taken away from him for good and will not be returned to him. The keeping back one-fourth of the salary, as above recommended, would be a better mode of disposing of cases of carelessness and the like on the part of abstractors than the imposition of any fine.

66. The payment of rewards to reabstractors by means of fines inflicted on abstractors for mistakes made by them is not advisable. The reabstractors should be a higher class of officers, and if they should have rewards they should be paid after the work is over.

Lastly, it would be advisable to arrange for the abstraction of occupations in sheet III in a more abstract form. For callings with one or more names there should be one entry, and not as many as the whims of the enumerators have led them to note in the schedules, with nominal alterations in their wording. Cases are known in which a cattle herd has been entered in one place as গো রক্ষক, in another as গোরু রাখাল, and in a third by the name of গোরুর রাখাল. Now by the instructions issued by the Superintendent of Census every one of them has to be separately entered. This classification of calling unnecessarily lengthens labour and makes the totalling form Y unusually large. Instances of similar entries of occupations can be multiplied, which could have been summarized into one calling giving it the name best known in the district.

67. I would finally add that the chief office work of the census was carried out under the supervision of Babu Gati Krishna Neogi, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, at first, and subsequently by Babu Bhuban Mohan Raha, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector: both of these officers worked zealously and intelligently.

68. In the general arrangement, however, and especially in drawing out this report, I have been most materially helped by Babu Krishna Govinda Gosvami, head clerk and sarishtadar of the Magistrate's office. He is a resident of this district, and his accurate knowledge of people, their habits, and their industries has been of the greatest use to me. He has in fact a critical knowledge of his countrymen such as I have seldom found other native gentlemen to possess. If, therefore, the census has been a success in this district, I would ascribe much of it to the intelligence and good work of this officer.

E J. H. - Reg. No. 1147—90—15-8-94.

DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

No. 836, dated Midnapore, the 14th March 1892.

From—J. G. CUMMING, Esq., Joint-Magistrate in charge,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

I HAVE the honour to submit the final report on the census of 1891, revised in accordance with the lines indicated in Government No. 5502, dated the 28th December last.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF MIDNAPORE, 1891.

HEAD I.—EARLY HISTORY, &c.

THE population of this district was ascertained to be at least a million and a half in 1802, which, however, fell short of an estimate framed 14 years previously. In 1872 the population was estimated at about two and a half millions, the increase being attributable to an increase in the area, which was 5,082 square miles, against 5,031 in 1854. In 1891 the area of the district was 5,186 square miles, and the total population 2,631,516, against 2,517,802 in 1881.

2. The distribution of the population depends here more on the soil than on any other cause. It may roughly be stated that in the western half of the district the ground is undulating, and is composed of laterite soil, covered here and there with jungle. This part of the district is sparsely populated, mostly by aboriginal tribes, and only low alluvial lands are cultivated. The eastern half of the district, on the other hand, is alluvial, and is thickly populated, and generally resembles other parts of Bengal Proper.

HEAD II.—MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION.

3. Though the population of the district, as a whole, has increased by four per cent., this increase is by no means uniform, and is indeed accompanied by a considerable decrease in some *thanas*. Speaking generally, there has been a steady outflow of population from the centre of the district to the *thanas* on its eastern and western boundaries.

4. There are ten *thanas* which show a decrease or an increase of only two per cent. or less, and these *thanas* form a compact body in the centre of the district.

5. The main road to Cuttack runs north and south through the district, bisecting the five central *thanas*. The most northern of these—Garhbeta—shows an appreciable increase of population, then comes Salbani, with an increase of 2·3 per cent., then the Sadar, with an increase of 0·2, Narayangarh, with a decrease of 9·0, and then Dantan, with a decrease of 5·8. Again, the four *thanas* adjoining the four last mentioned, also show a decrease or an insignificant increase; viz., Keshpur 1·3 per cent. decrease; Debra 4·0 per cent. decrease; Sabang 1·7 per cent. decrease; and Pataspur 0·9 per cent. increase. North-east of Keshpur is Chandrakona, with a decrease of 3 per cent., and east of Debra is Panskura, with an increase of only 1·8 per cent. All the other *thanas* (that is, those outside the central group with its two easterly projections, Chandrakona and Panskura) show an increase of 5 to 16 per cent.

6. The reason for the decrease, or the very slight increase, in these eleven central *thanas* is not immediately obvious. I imagine the decrease is owing to the migration of people, partly eastwards, to the busy marts in the subdivisions of Ghatal, Tamluk, and Contai, and partly westwards, to the sparsely populated tracts in the western borders of the district, where there is much room for extended cultivation and increase of population. It is also possible that the population in the centre has been more thinned by fever and other causes than in the riverside places in the east, or the hilly places in the west of the district.

7. In the case of Chandrakona, there is a special explanation: this part of the district still feels the effects of the ruin of the silk-weaving industry by foreign competition. The weavers did not at once take to agriculture: many were reduced to extreme poverty and many emigrated.

8. As a rule, the *thanas* vary now in the same direction as they appeared to do during the last census. The main exceptions are Garhbeta and Dantan. The former, which shows an increase of 5 per cent., includes large jungly and sparsely populated tracts in which there is much room for increase of population.

9. Dantan, on the other hand, which now shows a decrease of 5·8 per cent., at the last census showed an increase of 14 per cent. Perhaps the latter increase was partly fictitious; but it would seem that it is within the last ten years that the people of this part of the district have begun to desert their homes.

10. Ghatal and Daspur now show an increase of 10·1 and 7·0 per cent. respectively, whereas in the last census they showed decreases of 18·15 and 15·47 per cent. This is satisfactory. Like the adjoining *thana* Chandrakona, these two *thanas* suffered from the decline of silk-weaving: but it now seems that the labour has been directed into other channels, and the condition of the people has improved. Panskura on the canal, which showed a decrease of 13·32 per cent. last census, shows now a small percentage of increase.

11. The increase in the subdivisions of Tamluk and Contai is due to the prosperous condition of the people, and I believe to immigration from the central *thanas* as stated before. The same may also be said in a less degree of the *thanas* on the west of the district, which all show a large percentage of increase for reasons set forth above. There is also an immigration of Bengal shop-keepers and merchants and others which must be taken into account. In course of time these backward parts of the district will have large trade centres, and more and more resemble other more civilized parts of Bengal.

Head III.—Varying Density of the Population.

12. The present average density of the population of this district is 511 to the square mile, against about 500 both in 1872 and 1881. The population is very unequally distributed throughout the district. The Sadar subdivision averages 382 to the square mile, Contai 642, Tamluk 807, and Ghatal 881. The causes of this uneven distribution are permanent. Ghatal and Tamluk lie on the east of the district, and consist of fertile rice-growing alluvial plains. The Hooghly, Rupnarayan, and Haldi supply easy water carriage for the export of grain and the carrying on of trade in silk and metal manufactures. Contai to the west of Tamluk lies on the sea-coast. There are large tracts of sandy or salt-impregnated soil, and before the opening of the tidal canal, trade was hampered by want of communication. The case of the Sadar subdivision is different again; two-thirds of it lie on the laterite plateau running down from Binpur and Manbhum. This unfertile soil cannot maintain a large agricultural population; large tracts are covered by *sál* forest and jungle on which little impression has been made. In this tract, however, the population shows a very considerable increase, though it can never equal that of the fertile eastern portion of the district.

Head IV.—Religion.

13. There are 13 Hindus to each Muhammadan in the district, and there are four Muhammadans to every three Sonthals. The Muhammadans form more than one-tenth of the population in seven *thanas* lying in the Tamluk subdivision and the eastern portion of the Sadar subdivision.

14. In the census of 1872 the percentage obtained on population, as far as religious belief was concerned, was 90, 6 and 3 for Hindus, Muhammadans, and others respectively. Since the last census the Hindus have increased by 3 per cent., the Muhammadans, by 4·4 per cent., and the Sonthals by 16 per cent. This latter healthy and prolific race inhabits the jungly *thanas* in the north and west of the district, where there is ample room for expansion. The ground, too, being high, fever is not so prevalent as in the low-lying *thanas*, and they escape to a large extent the cholera and small-pox which break out almost annually in some of the other *thanas*. But the chief cause of this increase is, I believe, that they are now settling down as peaceful cultivators and labourers, and as such are multiplying faster than other more civilized tribes who have always lived a settled life.

15. The Christians have increased from 740 to 1,545, or by rather more than 108 per cent. They are chiefly found in the Sadar, Salbani, and Binpur *thanas*, where the American Baptists carry on their mission, and in Jhargaon, where there is a Jesuit Mission.

16. In *thana* Maslandapur there is a curious colony of Christians, numbering 282. They are the descendants of the Portuguese, and except that they call themselves Roman Catholics, and that some of them have Portuguese names, are not distinguishable from the other inhabitants of the country. In the same family one brother may have a Portuguese and another a Hindu name, such as Pedro and Gopal.

17. There are 109 Bramhos, against only 6 shown in the last census.

18. There are 4,154 Koras in the district, chiefly inhabiting the four adjacent *thanas*, Sadar, Narayangarh, Dantan, and Jhargaon. In the Sadar *thana*, 161 people returned themselves as being of Annya Dharmo, which is believed to be a new sect which has arisen.

Head V.—Infirmities.

19. Only 456 males and 238 females are returned as insane, against 593 and 318 at the last census, and 313 males and 46 females at that of 1872. It is probable that a lunatic has been defined differently to the enumerators. As a rule, the thickly-populated *thanas* show a larger percentage of lunatics, such as Maslandapur, Nandigram, Chandrakona, Ghatal, Khajri, Sutahata, and Pataspur; while at Binpur, Jhargaon, Gopiballabhpur, and Salbani, sparsely populated *thanas* inhabited largely by Sonthals, lunatics are almost absent. Still Garhbeta and Bhagwanpur are exceptions, the former showing a considerable percentage of lunatics and the latter very few.

20. The figures for lepers are 1,595 males and 477 females, against 1,672 and 666 respectively in 1881, and 1,850 males and 277 females in 1872. They are most numerous in Garhbeta, and are common in Dantan, Narayangarh, Chandrakona, Keshpur, Ramnagar, and the town, while there are fewer than the average in the Sadar, Debra, Gopiballabhpur, Bhagwanpur, Maslandapur, and Khajri. I can discover no principle regulating the distribution. It is not easy to see why lepers should be common in Keshpur and rare in Debra, an adjoining thana of similar physical characteristics. The scarcity of lepers in the Sadar *thana* is due to their being attracted to the town of Midnapore by the prospect of obtaining charity, the town thus draining the surrounding country. Some allowance must, however, be made for differences in the method of enumeration. It is difficult to believe that Garhbeta has twice as

many lepers for its size as any other *thana*, not that there are only 13 lepers in a population of 111,175 in Bhagwanpur, while adjacent *thanas* show no trace of any such departure from the normal. It is probable that the instructions to record only cases of malignant leprosy were not observed in Garhbeta, and were too narrowly interpreted in Bhagwanpur. It is noticeable that Bhagwanpur shows a corresponding deficiency of lunatics, while Garhbeta is there well up the list.

21. Of deaf mutes, the number is 1,290 males and 701 females, against 1,505 and 948 in 1881 and 715 and 218 in 1872. They show a tendency to be distributed in the same manner as the lunatics, and, like lunatics, are fewest in the jungly *thanas* of Binpur, Salbani, Jhargaon, and Gopiballabhpur.

22. As in the last census, throughout the Burdwan Division there are more females blind than males. The numbers are 929 males to 899 females, against 1,454 and 1,637 respectively. It is noteworthy that the figures for all infirmities show a marked decrease. This cannot well represent actual facts, and must be due to some difference in the system of enumeration or tabulation. It is, however, a curious fact to note that in the census of 1872 the proportion of males blind almost doubles that of females blind, the numbers being 1,351 males against 689 females. In the Census Report for 1872 it was stated that in the case of lunatics and deaf and dumb, the males were about three times as numerous as the females. There were twice as many blind men as blind women, whereas there were seven times as many male lepers as female lepers. Notwithstanding the variation in the proportion of persons afflicted with infirmities, as shown in the figures given for 1872 and 1881, it is seen that, except in the case of the blind, males preponderate over females. It is therefore very curious to note that there would be 1,351 males to 689 females blind in 1872, against 1,454 males to 1,637 females in 1881, and 929 males to 899 females blind in 1891. The only explanation is that the figures for 1872 were not correct.

Head VI.—Education.

23. The educational figures for 1881 and 1891 are noted below:—

	1881.	1891.
Males literate ...	140,790	182,413
„ learning ...	76,864	71,306
Females literate ...	1,655	4,211
„ learning ...	1,019	1,576

The progress in female education is a satisfactory sign. The report under this heading in the census of 1872 is so imperfect that no comparison is possible.

Head VII.—Language.

24. The prevailing language of the district is Bengali, but Uriya is spoken towards the southern, and Sonthali towards the western and north-western parts of the district. The Sonthâli dialect is undergoing an improvement by the establishment of Sonthali schools and the publication of Sonthali pamphlets by the American Baptists.

Head VIII.—Castes.*

25. The following are the figures of some of the principal castes for the three decades:—

	1872.	1881.	1891.
Brahmans ...	118,700	117,414	121,888
Rajput ...	17,003	19,573	17,692
Goala ...	44,163	53,994	54,565
Kaibartta ...	692,140	753,435	803,998
Jeliya ...	29,450	20,179	8,345
Kayastha ...	101,663	92,178	82,526
Kastha ...	.....	.....	22,889
Tanti ...	106,317	97,562	95,523
Bhuiya ...	11,336	21,128	10,628
Bhumij ...	35,344	25,258	38,804
Vaishnava ...	96,178	81,888	75,287

In most of the other castes the figures either call for no special remark or are obviously unreliable, owing to changes in the nomenclature adopted. The Rajputs have not increased materially; instances have come to my notice in which small zamindars, who are Rajus by caste, have tried to get themselves recognized as Rajputs.

The figures for Kaibartta and Jeliya would seem to show that the fishermen are being merged into the agricultural class. The Kayasthas show a steady decrease, even if we include the figures obtained this year for Kasthas. I believe that before more people got themselves put down as Kayasthas from motives of vanity. The decrease in the Tanti caste is probably

* *Vide* letter No. 4041, dated Midnapore, the 14th December 1892, from C. H. Bompas, Esq., Officiating Magistrate of Midnapore.

real: the weaving industry in the north-east of the district has suffered much in the last 20 years, and many weavers have emigrated to Calcutta. The figures for Bhuiyas and Bhumijs show how uncertainly the several censuses have distinguished between castes of different names. I have no reason to believe that the steady decrease in the number of Vaishnavas represents any decline in the popularity of that form of religion.

26. The subjoined note on the subject of the castes of Midnapore, has been written by Babu Kristo Kissore Acharjya, Secretary of the District Board.

The following are the chief castes in the district:—

1. Kaibartta.
2. Sadgop.
3. Tanti.
4. Teli.

27. The Kaibarttas are probably an offshoot of a race or tribe whose original seat was in the up-country. They say that their ancestors lived on the banks of the Saraju or Gogri, in Oudh, and there is still a caste in that part of the country known by the name of Kaura, the descendants of those whom their forefathers left behind them when they migrated southwards. When the forefathers of the present Kaibarttas migrated from their original home on the banks of the Saraju, their route probably lay along the eastern limit of the tableland in Central India, and tradition assigns their first appearance in the district of Midnapore to *Sakabda* 822. They were led by five Chiefs, who established as many separate chieftaincies in the district:—

1. Tamralipta or Tamluk.
2. Balisita.
3. Turka.
4. Sujamutha.
5. Kutabpur.

28. Goburdhan Nanda was the founder of the Moyna family. He defeated Sridha Hui, probably the last of a line of Aryan Chiefs, and took possession of his post.

The Sujamutha family is now extinct. Its last representative died a pauper some time ago. The Tamluk and Kutabpur families, though not extinct, have been reduced to indigence. Babu Kali Prassanna Gojendra Mohapatro of Khunduri is the lineal descendant of the Kaibartta Chief who fixed his head-quarters at Turka.

29. The Cossye was the northern boundary of Kaibartta land beyond which the Kaibarttas could not secure a foothold. This was because most part of the country on the north of the Cossye was covered with jungle, and was not therefore worth fighting for.

30. It is not possible to reconcile the fact of their having come from Upper India with the absence of all tradition to that effect among the Kaibarttas. The account given above rather reads like a story invented by men anxious to glorify their ancestry at the sacrifice of truth, than a tradition having a substratum of fact handed down from generation to generation.

31. Judged by the tests applied to historical events in the absence of authentic record, the Kaibarttas appear to have originally been an aboriginal tribe who, taking advantage of the degeneracy of their Aryan conquerors, re-assorted their independence and gradually stepped into the position of the territorial aristocracy of the country which the Aryans were too weak to maintain.

32. The features of the Kaibarttas, though softened by time in some cases into an Aryan cast, have not wholly lost their original characteristics, and the popularity of Sitola and other aboriginal deities among them affords sufficient evidence as to their having originally been a non-Aryan tribe.

33. The feeling with which the class of Brahmans who serve them as priests are regarded by other classes of Brahmans in the country amounts almost to abhorrence, and this furnishes another fact in the chain of evidence which leads to the conclusion indicated above as to their origin.

34. It was, I think, long after the Kaibarttas that the Sadgops came into the district. They evidently came from Burdwan which is their chief locality. It is not possible to give the exact date when they came. They did not, however, move further south than *thana* Narayangarh.

It is said that the first Sadgop family which migrated to the district of Midnapore settled at Narayangarh. The last Raja of Narayangarh, who died some years ago, after having run through the splendid patrimony which he inherited from his forefathers, was the twenty-third or twenty-fourth descendant of the direct line from the original founder of the family. This shows that the Sadgops must have come into the district some 800 years ago. The Sadgops are a semi-Aryan tribe, and their history is well known, and their migration to the district must have caused or followed the downfall of some of the Aryan chiefs on the north of it. But neither any traditions nor any legends are now current in the district to throw any light on the history of the times when the Sadgops left their original seat and came to Midnapore to settle in that part of it where the Kaibarttas had not been able to establish their supremacy.

35. In course of time other castes or tribes came into the district from Orissa—Karans, Khandaits, &c. They appear to have first come in search of employment. The Karans are a literate caste, and their social position in Orissa corresponds to that of the Kayasthas in Bengal. The Khandaits, as their name (swordsmen) indicates, must have come as

freelances to fight the battles of the Kaibartta Chiefs. These and other castes already in the district intermarried, and the children born of these intermarriages formed themselves into a number of minor castes—Kasthas, Rajus, Sristikarans, &c. These castes are, however, found only in Kaibartta land, *i.e.*, in the south of the district, and very seldom in the north.

36. The Kaibarttas are divided into two groups or subdivisions—the cultivating Kaibarttas and the fishing Kaibarttas. The first subdivision is more numerous and more influential, and on the south of the river Cossye these form the bulk of the agricultural population. Most of the zamindars and talukdars are also Kaibarttas, though there is also a sprinkling of other castes among them. The Kaibarttas, who have taken to fishing as their profession, probably first did so owing to the localities where they originally settled being favourable to it. Many of them, however, have given up fishing and have turned cultivators, and it is not improbable that in course of time most of them, if not all, will be absorbed into the other subdivision. That it is not always possible to distinguish between the two classes of Kaibarttas, will be evident from the fact that the number of Jeliyas (fishing Kaibarttas) returned at the last census shows a large decrease as compared with that of 1881. This is evidently due to the enumerators having confounded these two classes of the caste, and classified Jeliyas as Kaibarttas.

37. Almost all the Kaibarttas are Vaishnavas by religion. They generally pay greater respect to a Vaishnava than to a Brahman. In fact, the position of a Brahman in Kaibartta land is quite the reverse of what it is in other parts of Bengal. There are very few high-caste Brahmans in this part of the district. Most of the Brahmans here belong to a class known as Madhyasreni, and there is one peculiarity about these Brahmans which clearly indicates that they have lost all sense of honour to which their brethren in other parts of the country are so keenly alive. Whenever a feast is given on the occasion of a marriage or *sradh* by a rich man in their neighbourhood, they flock to it without a formal invitation. The Brahmans in other parts of Bengal would rather starve than go to a feast without being formally invited thereto by the rich man who gives it, no matter how rich he may be. The low estimation in which a Brahman is held in this part of the district inclines me to think that there must be something more than what meets the eye to account for this. A feeling of reverence towards the Brahman is what a Hindu almost sucks in with his mother's milk, and the solvent which has affected the consistency of this feeling to such an extent must have been very powerful. It is not Vaishnavism alone that could have done this. Buddhism began the work of cutting away the ground from under the foundation on which Brahmanical supremacy rested in this part of this district, and Vaishnavism completed it. When Asoke made Buddhism the established religion of his kingdom, which there is sufficient evidence to show included the Province of Orissa, the whole country occupied by the Kaibarttas must have embraced it. The Brahmans must then have lost their hold on the minds of the people and may have themselves lapsed into Buddhism. With the revival of Brahmanical supremacy, the image of Buddha at Puri was given a place in the Hindu Pantheon under the name of Jagannath, but the Brahmans in Kaibartta land could not regain the lost ground. They themselves had, in the estimation of the people, lost their original sanctity by coming into contact with Buddhism, and the Madhyasreni Brahmans are, I think, the descendants of those who, after their temporary lapse into Buddhism, returned to their fold only to find their former prestige all but completely vanished. Of the two principal castes named above, the Sadgops stand higher than the Kaibarttas in the order of social precedence. These two castes also represent the whole range of interests in land from a zamindar down to a cultivator.

38. The other castes arranged in the order of social precedence would stand thus:—

1. Brahmans.
2. Baidyas.
3. Kayasthas.
4. Navasakhas (including Sadgops).
5. Kasthas.
6. Karans.

The Kaibarttas stand next to the Karans. As to the lower castes, it is very difficult to arrange them in the order of social precedence. Most of them stand almost on the same level, one or two of them only standing a little higher than the rest. It is not, however, possible to clearly indicate such slight distinctions, specially in the case of the non-Aryan castes, as they have not yet been permanently fitted into the general framework of the Hindu society. They now lie as it were on the brink of that society, and are still too far away from its centre to be admitted within its pale on any footing.

39. The other two principal castes (Telis and Tantis) come under the head of Navasakhas. They trace their origin to the Vaisyas, but general opinion does not support their claim. They appear to be mixed castes. The Telis are oil-sellers and also carry on other trades. Some of them are very rich and have invested their wealth in extensive landed property. The Tantis have not been thriving since the introduction of English cotton-goods into the country. They are either dying off or leaving the district. Many have found employment on the mills in or near Calcutta.

40. Among the castes in the district, the Kayasthas show the most remarkable variation. They were 101,663 in 1872, 92,178 in 1881, and 82,526 at the recent census. This is due to Kayasthas and other mixed castes having been classified as Kayasthas at the two previous censuses. The Kayasthas are not indigenous to the district, and the people have no clear idea of the difference between a Kayastha and a Kastha. Hence this variation in this caste. But I suspect the Kayasthas are even less numerous than the recent census shows them to be. What with the ambition of some of the well-to-do Kasthas to be recognized

as Kayasthas, and the ignorance of the enumerators, the Kasthas will continue to be returned as Kayasthas until the census figures are more carefully scrutinized than it is possible to do at present.

41. The Suklis, a caste seldom found in any other district, have for the first time been separately returned at this census. They appear to be an aboriginal caste, and they hold the same low position in Hindu society as the Chandals. They tell, however, a story which ascribes to them a more ambitious origin. They say that they are the descendants of Sonkalin Rajputs. A Rajput clan of this name left Rajputana in the 17th century and migrated to Bengal. But history does not identify the place of their last settlement with the part of country in pargana Kedar Kundu, where the Suklis are found in larger numbers than elsewhere in the district.

Head IX.—Occupations.

42. As regards occupation, no inference can be drawn from a comparison of the figures of 1891 and 1881.

Head X.—Administrative.*

43. The first difficulty felt was the insufficiency in the number of record-keepers allowed to be entertained under paragraph 5 of Census Superintendent's circular No 44, to receive and arrange the schedule books as they were received from the *thanas*. The second difficulty was that there was not enough room in the Magistrate's office where the schedule books could have been kept arranged, as required under the draft Rules A of circular No. 46. Some time was also lost in removing the books from the Magistrate's office to the Census office. In this way the work preliminary to the "issue of the books for abstraction" was behindhand. To remedy these defects I would suggest the entertainment of a larger staff of record-keepers and that a Census office building be rented earlier, so that the schedule books may be received there direct from the *thanas*.

44 The cyclical order mentioned in paragraph 9 of the draft Rules B of Census Superintendent's circular No. 46, cannot be maintained unless work in all the sheets proceeds simultaneously.

45. I am strongly opposed to the proposal not to carry on work on all abstraction sheets concurrently. The work cannot be tested till all the sheets of a block are ready, and I am sure that the only way to ensure accurate work is to have *prompt* testing. If work is allowed to go on for months without being tested, it will all have to be done over again: and even if there were no extra expenditure of money, great waste of time would ensue, and discontent would break out in the office.

46. A margin for errors should be allowed: certain errors are unavoidable owing to the uncertain way in which the schedule books are filled up. An error of one per cent. in each block would certainly give an error of less than one per thousand in the district totals, which is quite unimportant from a statistical point of view.

47. Re-abstraction and adjustment should be paid for: if a man does bad work it is not always or even often possible to make him do it over again without pay, as he promptly leaves the office: and it does not generally happen that enough of his pay is in hand to pay another clerk for doing the work. If too much pay is withheld, clerks get discontented and leave the office.

48. The abstraction tasks might be increased 50 per cent. The tabulation tasks were not too high, but for the first month only half tasks should be exacted. The pay for abstraction was high enough, that for tabulation should be raised to Rs. 18, only good abstractors being appointed as tabulators.

49. Tabulation should not begin till abstraction is finished; it is impossible to efficiently supervise both operations at once in a large office.

50. Where the system broke down in our large office with its portentous number of blocks, was in the sending of incorrect sheets back for re-abstraction time after time. If this system had been adhered to throughout, I believe the office would have broken down altogether. A staff of adjusters is necessary, and money would be much better spent on them than on increasing the pay of abstractors. An adjuster and two re-abstractors can correct the work of a gang as fast as it is turned out. It should be understood that the adjusters are to be appointed as assistant inspectors in charge of the tabulation gangs when they are formed, and will, as a rule, tabulate the *thanas* which they have adjusted. This will be a security against fudging and inaccuracy, for the work cannot be tabulated unless it is accurate, and assistant inspectors will be paid by piece-work. The checkers in charge of abstraction gangs should be formed into a separate tabulation gang, which by its superior intelligence would easily earn Rs. 25 a month at piece-work.

51. The form of test-slip was not satisfactory; if possible, all sheets should show the same age periods, with subdivisions or without. A really efficient test-slip would then be prepared. I know of no reason why, for instance, it is necessary to have for statistical purposes in one case figures for ages 0—10 in others from 0—12. As I have not specimens of the forms with me, I do not feel able to suggest any definite form of test-slip, which would require very careful consideration.

52. The Superintendent of Census is aware that very great inconvenience was caused by the form of sheet I, owing to which it was impossible to say whether the ticks should be placed above or below the lines—a very fruitful source of error.

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* *Vide* letter No. 2744, dated Midnapore, the 20th August 1892, from R. C. Dutt, Esq., Magistrate of Midnapore.

L. A.—Reg. No. 1149J—30—31-5-94.

DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

No. 461C., dated Hooghly, the 15th March 1892.

From—H. G. Cooke, Esq., Magistrate of Hooghly,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

With reference to your Census circular No. 6T.—F., dated 3rd October 1891, I have the honour to submit the accompanying Report on the recent Census of the district of Hooghly.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF HOOGHLY, 1891.

Head I.—Early History, etc.

The district of Hooghly forms a portion of the indigenous division of the country called Rarh. For executive purposes it was a portion of *Sarkar* Saptagram, one of three *Sarkars* into which Bengal was divided under Hindu rule, the others being Laknabatti and Subarnagram. Under Muhammadan rule it again appears as part of *Sarkar* Saptagram, one of 19 administrative divisions of the country. In this latter relation it was united with the present district of the 24-Parganas and parts of Nadia and Murshidabad to form the Muhammadan *Sarkar* Saptagram. The *Sarkar* took its name from a port on the Saraswati. This main channel has now dwindled to a very minor channel, the waters of the river at present passing along the channel known as the Hooghly or Bhagirathi. I could insert here large extracts from Mr. Toynbee's work entitled "A Sketch of the Administration of the Hooghly District," which deals with the early greatness of Saptagram or Satgaon, of the Muhammadan military occupation, and of the part played by the Portuguese, the Dutch, and the French in the early history of this district, but I see no object in reproducing matter which is so easily accessible in its original form.

2. Suffice it to say that Saptagram has almost disappeared. I cannot find that any Muhammadans of the town of Hooghly, where a fort once stood, claim descent from the Mughul army of occupation, and, with the exception of a small block of masonry by the river-side, there is no trace of the fort, and the only other trace of Muhammadan greatness is the frequency of Moslem sepulchres chiefly in Hooghly and to a less extent in Chinsura.

3. There is a thin sprinkling of Sheahs and Musulmans of foreign descent, but these are believed to have been attracted by commercial objects. As for the European races, their fate has been similar to that of the Mughul armies. They have disappeared, leaving nothing but their graves and a few buildings, such as the church at Bandel, the Danish Government house and godowns at Serampore, the Dutch barracks at Chinsura, and very solid drainage works at Serampore and Chinsura as evidence of their former presence.

4. There are a few Eurasian families, with for the most part very doubtful claims to European descent, who bear Dutch or Portuguese names, but who by education and appearance would fall more appropriately under the head of Native Christian. I cannot think of more than three families at the Sadar station who could substantiate their claim to descent from the Dutch or Portuguese settlers. The case may be rather different at Chandernagore, where the French are still in occupation; but it might be questioned whether many of the French or French Eurasians are descendants of the early settlers. They are, I believe, for the most part new settlers in the one case and Pondicherry families in the other; but this is a matter on which it is not easy to speak with much confidence.

5. As for the Hindu and Muhammadan population, judging by comparison with the fairly unmixed races of Western India, I should suppose that three-fourths of the population are of non-Aryan race. They possess none of the characteristics, either in face, colour, form, or character, of Aryans. It is probable that the Aryan wave of conquest barely reached this corner of India, and the aboriginal races receded hitherward, into the forests and marshes of Bengal, as the conquerors settled in the more desirable regions of Upper India. As times advanced, a thin Aryan population doubtless found its way eastward to occupy posts of dignity and emolument. I cannot but think that they and their descendants, in early times, intermarried with Hinduized-aborigines, as it is only in rare instances that any approach to an Aryan type has been preserved. From early times the sanctity of the river Hooghly doubtless attracted Aryan immigrants, and in comparatively modern times an enormous number of Bengali Brahmans and Kayasthas are found in the district, attracted probably by the vicinity of Calcutta. It is difficult to believe that the majority of these classes date their establishment in this district further back than three centuries, and I should suppose that many have been little over a century settled here.

6. As to the Muhammadans, it appears an article of faith with them to suppose that they are of a different race to their Hindu neighbours, whereas they, with few exceptions, are, I should say, without doubt, converts to the Muhammadan faith.

7. There are, here and there, traces in the population of past events. Thus, at and near Pandua, which was first a Hindu and afterwards a Muhammadan stronghold, we have a vast number of Muhammadan small *sadar malguzars*, who are probably the descendants of Muhammadan soldiers or civil officers rewarded, as was then the practice, with grants of land on favourable terms. There is also an extensive earthwork fortification and the celebrated tower and adjacent buildings.

8. Another stronghold which changed hands in a similar manner is Garh Mandaran in the Jahanabad subdivision. This place contains a fine mosque and stone fortifications, as well as earthworks on a very large scale. Here, too, not only are there a great many Muhammadan families, which can hardly be other than the descendants of the army of occupation, but there are some Rajput families who, in all probability, are descendants of soldiers in the Hindu army.

9. There are other interesting Muhammadan ruins in this subdivision, there are the remains of a noble mosque at a place called Bijapur, about four miles from Goghat police station, and another which I have not seen, is said to exist south of Goghat, bearing the name of Shahanbandi or Muwarik Manzil. It has been stated that Garh Mandaran is one of a line of frontier forts built to defend the country from invasion from the south Gopegarh at Midnapore is mentioned as another. The invaders are said to have been Pathan or Afghan mosstroopers, who in early times exploited Orissa. It is believed that in early times there was an earthwork some eight miles long in the east of the district between Tribeni and Mahanad, and that it formed at this place the northern boundary of the old kingdom of Orissa. This may have been a similar fort, but the earthwork does not now exist. Mahanad is said to have been the fort of a Hindu or Pandab Raja, who doubtless gave his name to Pandua, which was another of his strongholds. He was evicted from both places by Shah Saji, the son-in-law of Jelaluddin Khilzi Noor Shah, at the end of the 13th century.

10. There was a fort at the other or river end of the earthwork at Tribeni. Here again a Hindu chief was replaced by a Muhammadan conqueror, Jafer Khan Gazi, who converted a Hindu temple into a mosque, which stands on high land overlooking the river. The only other traces of the past that I can recall, are the facts that descendants of the old Satgaon mercantile families still survive, and are known in Chinsura as Saptagrami Baniyas. There are some traces of a time when the Hindu power favoured the cultivation of Sanskrit learning: such are the *tols* of Bansbariya and Tribeni.

11. Some mention may be made of the traces of former European enterprise in indigo and silk. These industries have absolutely disappeared, but it is not an uncommon thing to come across traces of considerable factories and filatures now in ruins.

12. The alterations in the physical features of the district are all in connection with water. It has been to a small extent a history of erosion and accretion, and to a much larger extent of changes in river courses. The former changes and the formation of islands are insignificant, but the latter have been, and continue to be, matters of vital importance. The Damodar is an extremely mischievous river. It generally inundates a tract of land many miles long and about six miles wide in the rainy season. It has been embanked, but it appears doubtful whether it would not have been less mischievous if left unembanked. The Saraswati, formerly a broad and full river, has become a sluggish stream and source of malaria. Other waterways such as the Kana Damodar, and Kana Nadi, have similarly deteriorated, and have become sources of ill-health. The Eden canal, a portion of which is in this district, was designed partly to remedy this and to promote the flow of water, but in this respect it appears to be a doubtful success.

13. Another form in which water has produced marked effect on the physical condition of the country is by the numerous catchment basins in which the water accumulating in the rains was collected and the lands turned into meres and marshes. Since 1872, a series of drainage projects have been carried out to artificially drain these *jhils*. These works have entirely fulfilled their object, and have converted many square miles of almost valueless and certainly very malarious country into fertile and valuable plough land.

14. The three works now completed are the Dankuni project, which drains a marsh, some 12,000 acres in area. The Howrah project similarly drained and benefited 13,000 acres, and the Rajapore works, 34,500 acres.

15. It remains to comment on, and if possible account for, the changes in population of the district as shown by the censuses of 1872, 1881, and 1891. I omit Jahanabad, which was not part of the district in 1872. The population of Sadar and Serampore subdivisions:—

1872	... 757,499		
1881	... 660,172	—	97,327
1891	... 709,603	+	49,431
1891 as compared with 1872		—	47,896

The fall in the population between 1872 and 1881 is due to excessive mortality from fever. About half of the loss has been made good since 1881, but the population is still far below what it was twenty years ago.

16. The modern changes of jurisdiction will be dealt with in head II.

Head II.—Movement of the Population.

17. The district of Hooghly in 1872 was composed only of two subdivisions, ten *thanas*, and a total area of 785 square miles. The total population of the district, as returned by the census of that year, was 757,499. The following statement, reproduced from the Census Report of 1872, will show the distribution of this number among the different subdivisions and *thanas* of the district with the number of villages and towns included in each *thana*, and the number of population per square mile in that year :—

Thanas.	Area in square miles.	No. of villages and towns.	Total population.	Population per square mile.
1	2	3	4	5
Sadar Subdivision.				
Hooghly	62	107	67,638	1,089
Bansbariya	47	113	41,309	879
Balagarh	91	173	60,955	670
Pandua	115	178	77,332	672
Dhaniakhali	121	390	116,501	963
Subdivisional Total ...	436	961	363,635	834
Serampore Subdivision.				
Serampore	6	7	38,463	6,411
Baidyabati	63	138	80,291	1,274
Haripal	138	331	111,689	809
Kristnagar	71	164	69,280	976
Chanditala	71	163	94,141	1,326
Subdivisional Total ...	349	803	393,864	1,129
District Total ...	785	1,764	757,499	964

18. Turning next to the Census Report of 1881, we find that the district had changed considerably since 1872 in respect of its area, population, and distribution of subdivisions and *thanas*. It consisted of three subivisions, thirteen *thanas*, and an area of 1,223 square miles, while its total population had increased to 1,012,768. These changes will be illustrated by the following statement :—

Police Stations.	Area in square miles.	No. of towns and villages.	Total population.	Population per square mile.
1	2	3	4	5
Sadar Subdivision.				
Hooghly	27	55	54,176	2,006·5
Balagarh	86	127	48,218	560·6
Pandua	111	162	66,113	595·6
Dhaniakhali	135	357	93,537	692 8
Polba	83	172	46,173	556 3
Subdivisional Total ...	442	873	308,217	697·3
Serampore Subdivision.				
Serampore	22	19	68,344	3,106·5
Haripal	115	308	84,933	738·5
Kristnagar	63	144	55,107	874·7
Singur	71	163	59,181	833·5
Chanditala	72	135	84,387	1,172·0
Subdivisional Total ...	343	769	351,955	1,026·1
Jahanabad Subdivision.				
Jahanabad	147	226	110,412	751·1
Goghat	146	212	108,884	745·7
Khanakul	145	211	133,300	919·3
Subdivisional Total ...	438	649	352,596	805
District Total ...	1,223	2,291	1,012,768	828

19. In the first place, it will be seen from the foregoing table that a new subdivision, with an area of 438 square miles, comprising three new *thanas*, viz., Jahanabad, Goghat, and Khanakul, and containing a total population of 352,596, was added to this district during the ten years which elapsed from 1872 to 1881. A few words are necessary, perhaps, to explain how and when this large and important addition was effected. In 1872, when the census of that year was taken, the subdivision of Jahanabad consisted of four *thanas*, viz., Jahanabad, Goghat, Kotulpur, and Raona, and was included in the district of Burdwan. It continued as part of the Burdwan district till 1st October 1879, when, under orders of the Lieutenant-Governor, dated the 6th June 1879, and published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 18th idem, it was separated from the Burdwan district and transferred to Hooghly, with the following modifications in the distribution of its *thanas:* Kotalpur and Raona were transferred to Bankura and Burdwan respectively, while a new *thana*, Khanakul, then belonging to the Maheshrekha subdivision of the Howrah district, was brought under the Jahanabad subdivision in lieu of the two taken away from it. So the three *thanas* left to Jahanabad were Jahanabad, Goghat, and Khanakul, and these three still continue to comprise the subdivision.

20. By comparing in the next place the figures of 1881 with those of 1872 against the Serampore subdivision, many important changes are observable which require some explanation. In place of *thana* Baidyabati of 1872, we find a new *thana* in 1881, viz., Singur. This change was due to a redistribution of *thanas* in the Serampore subdivision, which was carried into effect on the 1st of July 1878. The two old police jurisdictions of Serampore and Baidabati were, under the new arrangement, converted into the two new police stations of Serampore and Singur. The whole of the country between the Hooghly river and the East Indian Railway was placed under the Serampore police station, and the rest under the Singur police station, with which were incorporated a few villages that were formerly in Haripal police station. The changes thus effected in the respective jurisdictions of the Serampore and Haripal police stations would explain to a great extent the broad variations of figures against those stations between the census tables of 1872 and 1881 under the different heads of area, number of villages, and population.

21. After the census of 1872, a number of villages were transferred from the Kristnagar police station to the police station of Amta in the Howrah district. This explains the decrease in the area of the Kristnagar police station since 1872, as also to a certain extent the variation of figures under the 2nd and 3rd headings of the above tables against that station.

22. Two villages, one from *thana* Singur and one from *thana* Haripal, were transferred to the Chanditala police station after the census of 1872. Hence the increase of one square mile in the area of the Chanditala police station. It should be noticed, however, that while the area of this police station had increased by one square mile, its number of villages is shown to have decreased by 28, and its population by no less than 9,754 during the ten years from 1872 to 1881. These two discrepancies are respectively accounted for to a considerable extent by the following two general facts :—

(1) In the census of 1881 a village with all it *patis* was counted as one village, but in the census of 1872, as in the last census, the *patis*, or at least the more important among them, were taken as separate villages.

(2) The malarious epidemic of 1868-1880 decimated Serampore as well as the Sadar subdivision of the district.

23. On the 1st of July 1878, when some of the important changes mentioned above were effected in the Serampore subdivision, an equally important redistribution of *thanas* was carried into effect in the Sadar subdivision of the district. The two old police stations of Hooghly and Bansbariya were formed into the two present police stations of Hooghly and Polba, the whole of the country between the Hooghly river and the East Indian Railway, including the area under the jurisdiction of the Magrah outpost, being placed under the former police station, and the rest under the Polba police station. A comparison of the tables given above will show to what extent the jurisdiction and the number of villages and population of the old Hooghly police station were affected by these changes.

24. With regard to the variations between the census returns of 1872 and 1881 in respect of the area under each of the police stations of Balagarh, Dhaniakhali, and Pandua, no satisfactory explanation can be obtained. This leads me to the conclusion that the census tabulations of 1872 in this district were not made as carefully as in the following two censuses, and that many inaccuracies thus crept into the census figures of that year which have necessarily caused numerous apparent variations between the figures of that and those of subsequent census returns.

25. In the Serampore subdivision, the population per square mile in 1872 was 1,129, and this number, it will be seen, came down to 1,026 in 1884. In the Sadar subdivision, likewise, which was shown in 1872 to contain 834 people per square mile, the population dwindled to 697 per square mile in 1881. This marked decrease in both subdivisions was due almost solely to the terrible malarious epidemic of 1868—1880 already referred to. It has been approximately computed in the Census Report of 1881 that the loss of not less than 650,000 lives in the Hooghly district was due to this epidemic, while a good number of those whom death did not claim fled to healthier places outside the district, and did not return to their homes till after the census of 1881.

26. It is very probable that the newly formed subdivision of Jahanabad suffered much from the widespread epidemic alluded to above; but as it did not come to form any part of the Hooghly district till the middle of 1879, when the virulence of the epidemic had well-nigh spent itself, I reserve my remarks on its population till I come to the figures of 1891.

27. I shall now notice the few changes that have taken place during the last decade by comparing the statement given above for 1881 with the following statement compiled from the present census statistics:—

Thanas.	Area in square miles.	No. of towns and villages.	Total population.	Population per square mile.
1	2	3	4	5
Sadar Subdivision.				
Hooghly	30	66	56,458	1,881·7
Balagarh	86	170	46,729	543·8
Dhaniakhali ...	135	366	95,694	708 8
Pandua	111	172	65,924	593·9
Polba	80	202	44,811	560·1
Subdivisional Total ...	442	976	309,616	700·5
Serampore Subdivision.				
Serampore	22	11	79,816	3,628·0
Haripal	116	319	95,080	820·8
Kristnagar	63	157	59,988	951·4
Singur	71	171	67,584	951·9
Chanditala	72	148	97,569	1,355·1
Subdivisional Total ...	348	806	399,987	1,166·1
Jahanabad Subdivision.				
Jahanabad	147	311	117,904	802·0
Goghat	146	238	109,416	749·4
Khanakul	145	256	139,787	964·0
Subdivisional Total ...	438	800	367,107	838·1
District Total ...	1,223	2,582	1,076,710	880·3

28. It will be seen that the names of all the *thanas* in the above statement are identical with those in the table of 1881, and, with the exception of Hooghly and Polba in the Sadar subdivision, the area comprised under each of the *thanas* has also remained unchanged. The variations of area in the Hooghly and Polba police stations are explained by the first half-yearly report of transfer of *thana* jurisdiction in the Hooghly district for the year 1887. We find in that report that under Government notification, dated the 8th February 1887, no less than fourteen villages, named in the margin, and including a total area of nearly three square miles, were transferred on the 1st April of that year from *thana* Polba to *thana* Hooghly.

Bonabhori, Akna, Bhotuah, Kajidanga, Serampore, Khaldarpur, Haridrapur, Devanandpur, Chandanpur, Krishnapur, Bagkrishnapur, Babubagan, Hajpur, Satgaon.

The above statement shows in the next place that the number of population per square mile in the Sadar subdivision is very nearly the same in the present year as it was in 1881, while in the other two subdivisions it has increased considerably, though far more in the Serampore than in the Jahanabad subdivision.

29. The proportionately larger increase of population in the Serampore subdivision is accounted for by the following circumstances special to that subdivision:—

"(1) The opening of the Tarakeswar Railway, which has afforded employment to a large number of people.

"(2) The establishment of five jute mills and one bone mill, which have attracted up-country coolies by hundreds, and converted localities which were formerly but petty villages into populous and thriving suburban towns.

30. To the above causes special to Serampore, must be added the general, but perhaps more potent cause of the abatement of malarious fever since 1881, and the increasing demand for accommodation in places easily accessible to Calcutta by middle class men, whose work calls them to town daily.

31. In the Jahanabad subdivision the population has increased from 805 per square mile in 1881 to 838 per square mile in the present year. This moderate increase in ten years

calls for no special explanation. It may be attributed to normal conditions, besides the general abatement of malarious fever.

32. The following statement will show the municipalities and towns included in the Hooghly district, with their area in square acres, and their population as it has varied since 1872:—

Municipalities and Towns.	Present area in square acres.	Total population in 1872.	Total population in 1881.	Total population in 1891.
1	2	3	4	5
Hooghly and Chinsura	3,840	34,761	31,177	33,060
Uttarpara	320	4,389	5,307	6,489
Serampore	2,280	24,440	25,559	35,952
Bhadreswar	1,920	7,417	9,241	9,639
Baidyabati	3,360	13,332	14,477	18,380
Kotrang	1,280	6,811	6,747	5,164
Bansbariya	4,320	7,861	7,031	6,783
Jahanabad	1,920	13,409	10,507	8,326
Total ...	19,240	112,420	109,046	123,793

33. The decrease of population in the Hooghly and Chinsura Municipality between 1872 and 1881 appears to have been caused principally by malarious fever, which prevailed during those years, as the subsequent increase is due to the cessation of that epidemic. The temporary immigration of coolies from up-country from time to time may also have had some effect in producing these variations.

34. In the Uttarpara Municipality the population would appear to have steadily increased since 1872, though not at such a rate as to call for any special explanation. It may be said, however, that the local bone mill and the paper mills at Bally have helped this growth of population to some extent.

35. The rapid increase of population in the Serampore Municipality should be attributed mainly to the opening of the three local jute mills.

36. The establishment of one jute mill within the Bhadreswar Municipality, aided by natural causes, has contributed to the moderate though steady growth of population in that municipality, as shown in the above statement.

37. The Champdani jute mill in the Baidyabati Municipality established in 1872, and a few soorkie and brick yards of less note near Champdani opened within the last ten years, have attracted a large number of labourers from up-country. The increase of population in the Baidyabati Municipality, as shown in the above statement, is mainly attributable to this cause.

38. The decrease of population in the Kotrang Municipality is attributed by its Chairman principally to the falling off of works in the local brickfields, which formerly did a very brisk business for the Calcutta Municipal Corporation.

39 The Chairman of the Bansbariya Municipality accounts for the decrease of population in that town since 1872 by the following facts:—

(1) The malarious epidemic of 1868—80, whose effects are still lingering.
(2) The growing practice among the well-to-do people of the town to take their families to their places of occupation in Calcutta and elsewhere.

40. At the time when the old Jahanabad Union was converted into a municipality, *i.e.*, on 1st April 1886, seven villages were taken away from it. Hence the apparent decrease of population in that municipality in the above statement. As a matter of fact, the population per square acre in the Jahanabad Municipality has moderately increased since 1881.

41. No new town, in the official acceptation of the word, has made its appearance, nor has any old town disappeared in this district since 1872.

42. By far the greater portion of the population of this district, in fact nearly three-fourths of it, still continue rural, the rural population returned at the present census being 843,339 (410,918 males and 432,421 females), and that of urban only 233,371 (118,221 males and 115,150 females); total 1,076,710. Broadly speaking, the East Indian Railway line, which runs through this district more or less parallel to the Hooghly river at a distance of nearly two miles from it, separates the rural from the urban part of the district. All the municipal towns, with the single exception of Jahanabad, lie in one long continuous line within the narrow strip of country which lies between the Hooghly on the east and the railway line on the west, and extend from a little way above Howrah on the south to Tribeni on the north. Beyond the railway line the district is entirely rural.

43. The rural population here consists chiefly of Sadgop, Bagdi, Kaibartta, and other agricultural castes. While lacking some advantages of civilization which are enjoyed by their urban brethren, the village people in the interior seem generally to be more happy and contented: they have fewer wants and no ambitions; their creature comforts are well supplied; they have reasonable facilities for litigation; and their condition is, but for malaria, one of almost ideal bliss.

44. There is practically no emigration from this district. Hooghly supplies Bengal with a good many Subordinate Judges, Munsifs, Deputy Magistrates, Vakils, and similar finished products of Western civilization. The raw material, the bold peasantry of Hooghly, is far too well off to emigrate. The departure of Hooghly graduates to seek their fortunes at the Bar or in Government service cannot be described as emigration; still less can the hundreds of Babus that the East Indian Railway takes from this district to Calcutta offices be called emigrants, as most of these have their homes in this district, and frequently, if not daily, return to them.

45. There is decidedly more of immigration into this district than emigration from it. The principal immigrants are the Santhals and other aborigines from the Santhal Parganas, Chota Nagpur, and the Central Provinces, and low-class Hindi-speaking people from Bihar and the North-Western Provinces. These generally come in search of temporary employment as mill hands and coolies on paddy-fields, brickfields, and roads; but some of the up-country Hindu immigrants also earn their living as private servants, police constables, &c. A few low-class Muhammadans from East Bengal are also found to immigrate here from time to time, principally in search of employment as boatmen. The register of birth-places for this district also shows a good number of people born in Orissa. Nearly the whole of this number, who are scattered all over the district, may be safely presumed to represent Uriya immigrants. The male portion of these people find employment for the most part as *palki*-bearers, but some of them also work in the mills and as private servants. There is a sprinkling of immigrants from other quarters of India and from some countries outside of India. These generally come for trading purposes.

46. The tabulation register of birth-places for this district cannot supply even an approximate idea of the number of immigrants here from other districts of Bengal, for many natives of this district take their wives from other districts of the province, and their children are often born in the mothers' paternal home. A fairly correct idea of the number of immigrants from provinces beyond Bengal, with the natives of which the people of this place are never found to intermarry, may be obtained from the following statement compiled from the said register:—

Santhal Parganas, Chota Nagpur, and the Central Provinces.	Orissa.	Assam.	Bihar.	N.-W. P. and Oudh.	Punjab.	Rajputana.	Central India.	Bombay.	Burma.	Afghanistan.	Europe.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
3,926	2,750	90	6,151	2,882	52	50	58	25	6	65	73	16,078

47. The people who immigrate to this district from Bihar are almost entirely restricted to Muhammadans and the petty agricultural castes of that province, and they, as well as the immigrants from other quarters, generally come in search of temporary employment, and seldom settle here permanently.

48. There are no mining centres in this district.

Head III.—Varying Density of the Population.

49. Mr. Pellew, in his remarks on the census of 1872, observed as follows:—

"The most striking thing about the returns for Hooghly (including Howrah) is the extreme density of the population, in which respect the district appears to exceed every other in Bengal, even including the 24-Parganas *cum*-Calcutta. That district has an average of 950 persons to the square mile. In Hooghly and Howrah the population is 1,045 to the square mile. The most populous part of Hooghly is a narrow strip stretching from below Howrah to above Tribeni, bounded on the east by the Hooghly and on the west by some low rice land and swamps, which separate this high and populous tract from another broader though less populous high strip, which fringes the Saraswati" The first of these two strips, consisting of the riparian municipalities in the district, he showed to contain a population varying from 8,148 to 3,000 per square mile, and on the second strip along the Saraswati and Kunti *khals*, containing the important villages of Magrah Rajhat, Nanda, Singur, Burai, Chanditala, and Beluty, the density of population was shown to vary from 1,000 to 3,000 per square mile.

50. The above two strips still continue most populous tracts of the district. The changes since 1872 in the riparian municipalities have been in the direction of a general increase, except in a few towns as illustrated by the table given in paragraph 32 under heading II of this report. In the remaining portion of the tract referred to above, the increase of population during the last intercensal period has made up to a great extent the marked decrease of the preceding period, caused by the ravages of epidemic fever.

51. The correct appreciation of the density of the population of the whole district is liable to be complicated by the ratio which the urban bears to the aggregate population. To avoid confusion, it is necessary to treat the density of urban and village population separately. The table given in the margin shows the area, houses, and the density of urban and rural population of the district by subdivisions.

Subdivision.	Area in square miles.	Number of—			Population.					
		Towns.	Villages.	Occupied houses.	Total.	Urban.	Density of urban population per square mile.	Rural.	Density of rural population per square mile.	Total density of population per square mile.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Hooghly ...	442	2	974	111,561	309,616	20,843	3,125	260,773	628	760·5
Serampore ...	343	5	801	90,039	399,987	75,624	5,284	324,363	986	1,166·1
Jahanabad ...	438	1	799	82,390	367,107	8,326	2,775	358,781	824	838·1
Total ...	1,223	8	2,574	284,590	1,076,710	123,793	4,126	952,917	800·6	880·3

52. The density of the urban population of the district is 4,126 per square mile, against 2,374 in 1881, and that of the rural population 800·6 per square mile, against 737·4 in 1881. These figures show that the urban population has increased much more rapidly than the rural population.

53. Colonel Haig, in dealing with the density of the population of the Hooghly district, observed in 1872 that the demand for food closely pressed upon production, and the margin between the two was perilously small. This remark he based upon the census figures of 1872, which returned the density to be 940 persons per square mile, exclusive of the urban part of the district. But such apprehension is now removed. The Dankuni Drainage Scheme has since, by reclaiming the marshes of Serampore subdivision, contributed to the increase of the food-supply of the district; and the density of the tract to which Colonel Haig's remarks applied, that is, to the Sadar and Serampore subdivisions, which comprised the district in 1872, is not now so high as it was in 1872. The present census return shows the density of the rural parts of Sadar and Serampore subdivisions to be 783·82. Moreover, this district swarms with well-to-do wage-earning classes, who are well able to bear the cost of imported provisions, were such necessary, to keep up the food-supply. I doubt whether such necessity exists; if it does so, the railways of the district supply ample facilities for import.

54. After carefully comparing the population of the present census with that of 1881 in the villages benefited by the Dankuni Drainage Scheme, I find increase of population to be 9,407 in 38 villages, and decrease to be 1,199 in nine villages. The net increase in 47 villages is 8,208, out of which increase of 4,304 is in villages Rishra and Bera, in which non-agricultural population exceeds by far the agricultural. It would not be right therefore to hold that the Drainage Scheme, which has undoubtedly improved the soil and reclaimed the marshes, has had any great effect on the growth of the agricultural population of the district.

55. In the Provincial Census Report of 1881, the Hooghly district was ranked fifth according to village density, and seventh according to total density. The present census figures show the village density to be 800·66 per square mile, against 737·43 in 1881, and the total density is 880·38 per square mile, against 828·10 in 1881. The number of towns and villages per square mile is 2·12 against 1·87 in 1881. The number of occupied houses per square mile is 232·69 against 195·10, and the number of persons per occupied house is 3·78 against 4·24 of the preceding census.

56. Since the establishment of jute mills on the banks of the Hooghly and the 24-Parganas districts, jute has been largely grown, generally on lands which were used previously for other crops. The cultivation of potato, cabbage, turnip, &c., has also increased; but there was so little waste land, except the Dankuni swamps, in this district that the increase of area of a crop can hardly be said to imply a corresponding increase of cultivated area and of working hands. This cannot therefore affect the density of the population.

57. As regards the introduction of new industries, the setting up of the mills has caused a large congregation of coolies from different parts of the country in the localities where these mills are situated. The sanitary arrangements for the working people of these mills are generally so good that scarcely any epidemic disease breaks out in those parts, and the consequence is that the density of the population in such localities rises steadily. There was at one time a very flourishing silk trade in Jahanabad and its neighbourhood, but since the importation of European goods this industry only exists in name. The decline of this trade dates so far back that it scarcely affected the density of the population in the two previous decennial periods.

58. The mortality caused by epidemic fever between 1863 and 1875 has been dealt with in head II. I have only to add that the population of certain villages in *thanas* Pandua, Balagar, Hooghly, and Haripal was so decimated that it was reduced from 25 to 50 per cent., but since then the population has much increased.

Head IV.—Religion.

59. The district of Hooghly is essentially Hindu in religion, 81·84 per cent. of its total population being returned as Hindus at the present census: 17·89 per cent. of the population

are Muhammadans, and the remainder, ·27 per cent., consists of a sprinkling of Christians, Buddhists, Jains, Brahmos, Sonthals and a few unspecified aborigines. The local distribution of these religious classes in the district will be exhibited by the following statement compiled from the last census statistics:—

Subdivisions.	Thanas.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Christians.	Buddhists.	Jains.	Brahmos.	Sonthals.	Other aborigines.	Total population.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sadar	Hooghly	46,600	9,610	200	2	3	11	14	18	56,458	Percentage of Hindus in Sadar subdivision. 74·69
	Balagar	38,443	8,280	6	...	...	...	...	...	46,729	Percentage of Muhammadans in Sadar subdivision. 24·94
	Pandua	43,753	22,050	61	...	...	...	60	...	65,924	Percentage of Christians in Sadar subdivision. ·08
	Dhaniakhali ...	68,825	26,216	...	...	...	3	650	...	95,694	Percentage of Sonthals in Sadar subdivision. ·26
	Polba	33,650	11,067	3	...	...	6	85	...	44,811	Percentage of others in Sadar subdivision. ·01
	Subdivisional Total	231,271	77,223	270	2	3	20	809	18	309,616	
Serampore ...	Serampore ...	70,138	9,264	345	1	9	10	30	1	79,816	Percentage of Hindus in Serampore subdivision. 82·98
	Haripal	77,380	17,052	2	...	...	...	640	...	95,080	Percentage of Muhammadans in Serampore subdivision. 16·73
	Kristnagar ...	47,597	12,278	...	...	...	3	61	...	59,938	Percentage of Christians in Serampore subdivision. ·09
	Singur	61,623	5,887	1	...	2	3	68	...	67,584	Percentage of Sonthals in Serampore subdivision. ·23
	Chanditala ...	74,985	22,453	15	...	2	...	114	...	97,569	Percentage of others in Serampore subdivision. ·02
	Subdivisional Total	331,723	66,934	363	1	13	24	923	1	399,987	
Jahanabad ...	Jahanabad ...	98,199	19,013	...	...	...	...	93	..	117,904	Percentage of Hindus in Jahanabad subdivision. 86·09
	Goghat	98,034	10,329	...	...	...	...	153	...	109,416	Percentage of Muhammadans in Jahanabad subdivision. 13·31
	Khanakul ...	121,142	18,587	...	...	...	...	58	...	139,787	Percentage of Sonthals in Jahanabad subdivision. ·08
	Subdivisional Total	318,275	48,528	...	...	...	...	304	...	367,107	Percentage of Christians and others in Jahanabad subdivision. Nil
	District Total ...	881,275	193,685	633	3	16	44	2,035	19	1,076,710	District Percentage— Hindu population 81·84; Muhammadan population. 17·89; Christian population ·05; Sonthal ·81; Others ·04

60. I shall now compare some of the figures in the above statement with the corresponding figures in the census returns of 1881 and 1872, as given in the census reports of Bengal for those years.

61. *Sonthals and other aborigines.*—The first thing, perhaps, that strikes one in this comparison is the apparently large increase in the number of Sonthals and other aborigines in the district during the last decade. In the census of 1872, the Sonthals and other aborigines were not separately returned, and so it is not possible to know how many, if any, of them were to be found in the district at that time. In 1881, the number of Sonthals in the district, according to the census return of that year, was only 37 (10 in the Sadar and 27 in the Serampore subdivision), but other aboriginal tribes were not to be found. The last census returns the total number of Sonthals in the district as 2,035, and 19 persons besides are shown as belonging to other undenominational aborigines. In drawing conclusions from the above figures, some allowance must be made for the undoubted fact that a good number of Sonthals in this district, mostly those of a mixed origin, had been carelessly entered as up-country Hindus in the census of 1881, while the possibility of such errors was minimised, as far as possible, at the last census by strict and timely instructions to the enumerators on the subject, as well as by other precautionary measures. But notwithstanding this fact, there is no denying that a considerable influx of Sonthals into the district, mostly from Chota Nagpur and further west, has taken place during the last decade. Many of these immigrant Sonthals are not so primitive as when they left their own country, and are, to all appearance, semi-Hinduized, though still professing the paganism of their forefathers. As already noticed in dealing with immigration, these people come in search of temporary employment as coolies, and seldom or never settle here permanently.

62. *Brahmos.*—The history of the Brahmo faith during the past ten years deserves consideration. At the census of 1872 the followers of the Brahmo Samaj were not separately

returned; but it may, perhaps, be quite safely presumed that the number of professed Brahmos in this district was very small at that time. The next census returned sixteen Brahmos in the whole district, thirteen of the number belonging to the Sadar and three to the Serampore subdivision. At the present census, the total number of Brahmos in the district is found to be 44 (20 in the Sadar and 24 in the Serampore subdivision). Somehow or other the subdivision of Jahanabad would appear to have remained untouched by the Brahmo faith, though Khanakul in this subdivision is the birth-place of the founder of the Brahmo church, Raja Ram Mohun Roy. Any general conclusion, one way or the other, from the insignificant figures quoted above would perhaps be inadvisable. It would be but just, however, to say that those figures show broadly, if they show anything, that the proportion of Brahmo population in the district remains as infinitesimally small at the present day as it was ten years ago; and though it would be premature, no doubt, to say just at present that the Brahmo religion has already commenced a backward movement in this part of the country, it may be said at any rate that the high hopes which were entertained not long ago for the future of the Brahmo Samaj have ceased to animate even many of the most sanguine of its votaries. Brahmo proselytism, so far as I know, has almost become a thing of the past in this part of the country, and any slight increase that may be seen from the last census return in the total number of Brahmos in this district appears to be due partly to the change of residence of the few old Brahmo families and partly to temporary immigration and natural increase of existing families, but very little or not at all to the progress of the movement. Signs appear to the already visible of a tendency in the Brahmo faith to merge again into the undefined ocean of Hinduism from which it sprang, and it is a question how far the new creed of theosophy is helping the process. It is a significant fact that the followers of the Adi-Brahmo Samaj in a body expressed their desire at the last census to be returned not as Brahmo simply, but as Hindus of the Brahmo sect.

63. *Jains.*—There seem to have been no Jains in this district up to 1881. At the last census, however, there were found three Jains in the Sadar subdivision and thirteen in the Serampore subdivision. This calls for no remark: it is traceable to immigration and not to change of creed.

64. *Buddhists.*—There were no Buddhists in this district in 1872, and in the present census return likewise, the number of Buddhists is shown to be almost nominal, there being three only, probably Chinamen, who come for business purposes. But strangely enough, the Census Report of 1881 shows the number of Buddhist population in this district as 290, 268 of whom ard shown to belong to the small *thana* of Singur in the Serampore subdivision. This cannot be accounted for in any way that I can see, except by supposing it to be a mistake in tabulation, which somehow or other crept into the Census Report of 1881. For there can be seen no Buddhist temple in or about the Singur *thana*, nor anything else, new or old, to indicate any association of the place with the creed of Buddha.

65. *Christians.*—Nine hundred and eighty-nine was the total number of Christians returned from the district at the census of 1872, 388 of the number belonging to the Sadar, and 601 to the Serampore subdivision. In 1881, the total came down to 655 (290 in the sadar and 365 in the Serampore subdivision). The present census returns the total number of Christians in the district as 633 (270 in the Sadar and 363 in the Serampore subdivision). There are no Christians now in the Jahanabad subdivision, as there were none in 1872 and 1881. The percentage of Christian population in the district in 1872 was ·13, in 1881 ·06, and in 1891 ·05. This shows no doubt a steady though slow decrease, which is principally accounted for by the gradual emigration during the last 20 years of a good number of Portuguese, Armenian, and Native-Christian families from the Sadar and Serampore subdivisions to Calcutta, Chandernagore, and other places. As to proselytism, any conclusion that may be drawn from a comparison of the census figures of 1881 and 1891 under the head of "Native-Christians," would seem to go in support of the opinion that Christianity is not gaining ground to any perceptible extent among the natives of this district, if indeed it is not actually retrogressing; for the total number of Native-Christians in the district in 1881 was 261, while the number returned at the present census is 225. Allowance being made for the emigration of a few Native-Christian families from the district, as noticed above, these figures would still seem to point to something like a stationary condition in the history of the Christian faith among the natives of this district during the last decade. The comparatively large number of Christians in the Serampore subdivision is accounted for by the existence of several jute and bone mills within that subdivision, which are owned and managed by European companies.

66. *Muhammadans.*—"The religion of Islam has now ceased to make any further progress among the people"—so wrote Sir W. W. Hunter in 1876 about this district in his "Statistical Account of Bengal," and his remark was apparently based upon the census return of 1872, which showed the number of Muhammadan population in the district as 163,764, or 21·61 per cent. of the total population. Since then, the proportion of Muhammadan population in the district would seem to have slowly but steadily declined, though their total number does not show any decrease, but on the contrary some increase; for the census of 1881 returned the number of Muhammadans in this district as 188,798, or only 18·64 per cent. of the total population, while according to the present census return they number 192,685, or only 17·89 per cent. of the population. This decrease in the proportion of Muhammadan population in the district, in spite of a slight increase in their total number, is a very remarkable fact and not easily explained. The percentage of increase among Muhammadans is a shade over 2 per cent. in ten years, and that of Hindus a shade under 7. I can conceive no cause to account for this. The majority of immigrants having work at the mills or taking service in the police, in the railway, and in stables and private families, are beyond doubt Hindus rather than

Muhammadans; but among the immigrants the aborigines form a considerable fraction. I do not think it safe to put down the Hindu immigrants as above 5,000 in the ten years, and this is an insignificant portion of the total Hindu increase of 57,303. There is nothing, so far as I know, in the habits and modes of life of the Hindus as compared with the Muhammadan masses which account for so striking a difference in the rate of increase as 7 and 2 per cent. It would almost appear that there must be some occult cause which affects the fecundity of one class as compared with the other, but the cause I cannot venture to guess. The increase of Hindus is affected to a small extent by persons of easy means settling on the banks of the Hooghly either during or after their business career. The comparatively larger percentage of Muhammadans in the Sadar subdivision, and particularly in the Pandua and Dhaniakhali *thanas* of that subdivision, is accounted for by the fact that this part of the district formed the head-quarters of a Muhammadan Faujdar during the days of the Mughuls. Pandua, moreover, is regarded as a very sacred place by the Muhammadans, and an annual Muhammadan religious *mela* is still held near the great mosque of that place in the month of January, when a large number of Muhammadans congregate there from all parts of the district and more distant places.

67. *Hindus.*—This district contained 592,635 Hindus in 1872, *i.e.*, 78·23 of the entire population. In 1881 the number increased to 822,972, or 81·25, per cent. of the district population. A further increase of ·25 per cent. is shown by the present census, which returns the total number of Hindus in the district as 881,275. This steady increase both in number and proportion of Hindu population in a Hindu district calls for no special explanation beyond those given under head II for the general increase of population in the district.

Head V.—Infirmities.*

68. The accompanying statement will show the distribution of the infirmities in relation to castes. No statistics have been supplied to this office as to the distribution of infirmities in relation to the *thanas* of this district, but from the information gathered in the Sadar subdivision, it appears that the infirmities are largest in Dhaniakhali and smallest in Hooghly police station.

Caste.	Males.	Females.	Caste.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	1	2	3
Blind.			*Insane.*		
Goala ...	24	32	Shaikh ...	51	21
Bhuimali ...	12	10	Goala ...	12	7
Bagdi ...	74	66	Brahman ...	33	11
Kaibartta ...	55	50	Sadgop ...	15	13
Muchi ...	7	12	Kaibartta ...	14	20
Shaikh ...	71	67	Muchi ...	3	7
Brahman ...	17	25	Kayastha ...	14	1
Pod ...	4	.....	Bhuimali ...	1	3
Kayastha ...	8	9	Jugi ...	...	2
Napit ...	8	7	Bagdi ...	25	15
Sadgop ...	38	30	Tanti ...	18	5
Others ...	120	192	Others ...	82	32
District Total ...	439	449	District Total ...	268	141
Leper.			*Deaf-Mute.*		
Brahman ...	24	14	Shaikh ...	82	84
Bagdi ...	34	4	Jugi ...	1	1
Shaikh ...	97	14	Pod ...	3	.....
Kaibartta ...	41	8	Bagdi ...	67	54
Sadgop ...	60	11	Dhoba ...	1	1
Kayastha ...	3	5	Kayastha ...	4	3
Bhuimali ...	6	10	Namasudra ...	...	5
Chasa Dhoba ...	80	21	Brahman ...	19	18
Muchi ...	10	1	Sadgop ...	21	12
Pod ...	2	.....	Kaibartta ...	39	37
Tanti ...	29	5	Bhuimali ...	13	3
Teli ...	14	3	Muchi ...	22	14
Namasudra ...	25	3	Goala ...	30	19
Goala ...	41	11	Teli ...	17	6
Others ...	145	29	Others ...	...	...
District Total ...	611	139	District Total ...	426	338

Insanity.—The Civil Surgeon, Dr. B. Gupta, has left the following remarks as to the cause of insanity and leprosy:—Causes of insanity are of two kinds—first, predisposing, second, exciting. Among the predisposing causes may be noted, male sex, age between 25 and 40 years; certain conditions of life, such as, poverty, drinking to excess of spirits, use of *ganja*, *bhang*; consanguinity; great difference between the age of parents; convulsions or emotions of

* *Vide* letter No. 4890., dated the 29th April 1893, from F. W. Duke, Esq., Officiating Magistrate of Hooghly.

the mother during gestation; epilepsy or other nervous affection; sexual irregularities. The exciting causes may be again divided into two classes, viz., first, moral, and second, physical.

69. Among the moral causes may be mentioned domestic trouble and anxiety, mental shock, overwork, great excitement, and disappointment. Among the physical exciting causes of insanity may be noted parturition, several uterine and ovarian diseases; diseases and injuries of the head; acute febrile diseases; chronic illness producing exhaustion; constitutional diseases, as gout, ague, or syphilis; diseases of the heart and blood vessels; exposure to great heat and cold; lead or other poisons; blows on the head; and organic disease of the bones of the cranium. Most of these causes no doubt apply all over the world. Excess in *ganja* or *bhang* is no doubt peculiarly Indian, and probably syphilis is more widely spread and deeper in the constitutions of the people in Bengal than in most parts of the world.

70. *Leprosy.*—The essential cause of leprosy is unknown. Heredity appears to have some influence in causing it, but such a result is not invariable. Popular belief regarding leprosy probably varies in different parts of the country. It is generally believed that leprosy is the result of sin. It is also believed, specially among the Hindus, that beef-eating often causes this disease; that it is infectious and contagious and hereditary. Some people believe that the use of rotten meat or fish causes leprosy. Some also ascribe the disease to syphilis and the use of calomel. According to Dr. Gupta there is absolutely no evidence to show that leprosy is connected with the excessive use of any kind of food, such as rotten fish or unwholesome meat which opinion has since been confirmed by the leprosy commission.

71. Turning to the census figures I find that the Muhammadan lepers in the district are 143 males and 26 females, and the Hindu lepers, consisting of 11 castes are 280 males and 84 females, or, in other words, the Hindu lepers are double that of Muhammadan lepers. The Hindu population bears to the Muhammadan population the proportion of 4 to 1. The popular belief that the Muhammadans are more liable to be infected with leprosy than the Hindus is somewhat borne out by the above statistics, and the statement made by some authorities that the disease does not peculiarly attack any race or creed, is liable to be questioned. The census figures furnish fact that the male lepers in this district are nearly five times greater than the female lepers, the former being 611 and the latter 139. This seems to me a remarkable fact worth noting when investigating the causes of leprosy. It may, however, be greatly due to the retiring habits of the female population. The early stages would be much more readily noticed in a man than in a woman.

72. The chief castes in the district with their population and the number of lepers belonging to each caste are given below:—

	Population.	Lepers.
Bagdi ...	157,304	38
Kaibartta ...	143,780	49
Brahmans ...	74,991	38
Teli ...	54,603	17
Sadgop ...	56,288	71
Goala ...	38,602	52
Kayasthas ...	29,177	8

73. There is no reason to believe that the enumerators did not correctly understand the definitions of "insanity" and "leprosy" for the purposes of the census.

Head VI.—Education.

74. The three grades of education into which the population is divided correspond with the three headings in the schedule under which the enumerators were directed to classify the people. They are (1) the learners, (2) the literate, (3) the illiterate. The table given in the margin shows these three grades in this district under heads "All religions," "Hindus," and "Muhammadans," and furnishes also the information as to sex. Dealing first with the illiterates and beginning with the general population of all religions, it will be observed that the proportion of illiterates is 8,716 in every 10,000 of the population, against 8,982 in 1881. Turning next to the educated population, *i.e.*, those able to read and write, as distinguished from those who are still learning, the general proportion for this district is one to every nine who can neither read nor write, against one to 13 in 1881.

1891.

All Religions.

Males.				Females.			
Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
41,178	87,566	400,395	529,139	1,004	3,986	542,581	547,571
Hindus.							
35,235	78,367	322,737	436,339	926	3,699	440,355	444,980
Muhammadans.							
5,833	9,005	76,192	91,030	52	134	101,469	101,655

The proportion of literate to the whole population was 6·8 per cent. in 1881, whereas it is 8·8 now. At the census of 1872, the population of Bengal was not classified according to their ability to read and write except in the case of a few municipal towns; so no comparison is possible of the figures of the present census with those of 1872.

75. Statistics of the literate and illiterate denote the comparative attainments of persons whose day for learning has gone, and therefore refer only to the past, while statistics of actual instruction show not only to what stage education has already advanced, but supply us with a means of comparison with the past and of forecast for the future. These statistics present an additional element of interest by their comparison with similar statistics supplied by the Education Department. Before dealing with this subject, I have therefore thought it proper to give the statistics of the Education Department, as furnished to me by the Inspector of Schools, Western Circle, and treat on the points raised in the Government order under head "Education," viz., (1) Increase in English and Vernacular education in different classes, (2) comparative statistics of schools and pupils since 1872, with explanatory comments, (3) Spread of education in different parts of the district in relation to character and religion of population and predominant castes, (4) Spread of education among so-called aboriginal races.

76. In treating of the first point on which information is required, it is necessary for me to state at the outset that the statistics of schools and pupils for the district of Hooghly proper are not available for the years 1872 to 1877, during which period Howrah was incorporated with Hooghly, and the two united were treated as the Hooghly district in the divisional as well as in the Director's report. There is no means now of separating for this period the figures for Howrah proper from the conjoint figures of Hooghly and Howrah, in order to get the figures for Hooghly alone. But although separate figures for the district of Hooghly proper for 1872 to 1877 are not now obtainable anywhere, those for 1871 are; and it is found that at the end of 1871 or at the beginning of 1872, the total number of schools teaching English and Bengali, including high and middle schools, was 39; and the pupils in them 3,982. In 1881, the number of these schools advanced to 54, or by 38·4 per cent., and the pupils in them to 5,218 or by 31 per cent. Again, in 1891, the total number of Anglo-vernacular schools rose to 79, or by 46·3 per cent., and the pupils in them to 8,070, or by 55 per cent. Within the last twenty years, therefore, the schools, in which, besides Bengali, English is more or less largely taught, have advanced from 39 to 79, or by 102·5 per cent., and the pupils in them from 3,982 to 8,070, or by 102·6 per cent.

77. Now experience has shown, and it may therefore be assumed, in the absence of rigidly correct and positive statistical information on the point (except that for the year 1887, in which a caste return of pupils was obtained), that the upper classes of Hindus, such as Brahmans, Baidyas, &c, constitute the bulk of students of our high and middle English schools, and that on an average the number of students drawn from these classes may be taken at nothing under 55 per cent., of the total number of pupils on the rolls of these English teaching schools; the Navasakhas, the artizan, and the trading classes constitute about 35 per cent., and all other classes, including, agriculturists and the Muhammadans, are not in excess of the remaining 10 per cent. In this view of the case, from 1871 to 1881, the measure of increase in English education among the upper classes, defined as above, will be found in the fact that out of a total increase of 31 per cent in all classes of pupils, the Brahmans, Kayasthas, and Baidyas show an increase of 17 per cent. the Navasakhas contributed 11, and the other classes, including Muhammadans, the remaining 3 per cent. Proceeding upon the same line of reasoning, from 1881 to 1891, in the matter of English education, out of a total increase of 55 per cent. in pupils, students drawn from the upper classes (Brahmans, &c.) have advanced by 30 per cent., those from the Navasakhas, &c., 19·25 per cent., and those from the remaining classes by 5 5 per cent. Again, from 1871 to 1891, out of a total increase of 102 per cent. in pupils of all classes, 56 per cent. are represented by the upper classes of Hindus (Brahmans, Kayasthas, &c.), 36 per cent. by the Navasakhas, and 10 per cent. by the remaining classes including Muhammadans.

78. Taking the schools for purely vernacular education, it is seen that at the end of 1871, *i.e.*, at the beginning of 1872, there were 219 such schools, (47 middle vernacular, and 172 primary schools, including schools for girls) with 11,286 pupils in them all. In 1881, the number of schools advanced to 1,316, or by 500 per cent., *i.e.*, sixfold; and the pupils in them rose to 27,551, or by 144 per cent. In the subsequent ten years, *i.e.*, at the end of 1891, the number of these schools increased to 1,700, or by 29 per cent., and their pupils to 45 612, or by about 66 per cent. Within the last 20 years, therefore, schools for purely vernacular education rose from 219 to 1,700, or by 7·7 per cent. or nearly eightfold; and the pupils in them from 11,286 to 45,612, or over four times. Now calculating upon experience, as well as from the results shown in the caste return of the Hooghly district for 1887, it may be safely assumed that in purely vernacular schools the upper classes of Hindus (Brahmans, Baidyas, &c.) contribute on an average 25 per cent. of the total number of pupils; the Navasakhas 32 per cent., and the remaining classes, *i.e.*, the agricultural classes or the masses and others, including Muhammadans, so much as 43 per cent.

79. Total increase in pupils of all classes in purely vernacular schools from the beginning of 1872 to the end of 1881 has been 144 per cent.

Increase in pupils of the upper class Brahmans, &c.)	36 per cent.	This is the measure of increase of vernacular education among Brahmans, among Navasakhas, and among the masses.
Increase in pupils among Navasakhas, &c. ...	46 „	
Increase in pupils of the agricultural classes or the masses and others ...	62 „	
Total ...	144	

80. Again from the end of 1881 to the end of 1891, total increase in pupils of all classes in these schools (purely vernacular) has been 66 per cent.

Increase in pupils of the upper classes (Brahmans, &c.)	17 per cent.	Measure of increase in vernacular education among Brahmans.
Increase in pupils among Navasakhas	21 „	Measure of increase in vernacular education among Navasakhas.
Increase in pupils in agricultural classes or masses and others	28 „	Measure of increase in vernacular education among agricultural classes or masses.
	66 „	

81. From the end of 1871 to 1891, out of a total increase of 34,326 pupils in vernacular schools, *i.e.*, from 11,286 at the end of 1871, to 45,612 at the end of 1891, 8,581, or 75 per cent, are represented by the upper classes of Hindus (Brahmans, Baidyas, &c.), 10,984, or 96 per cent., by the Navasakhas, and 14,769, or 129 per cent., by the masses and the Muhammadans.

82. The progress of the Muhammadans alone in English and vernacular education from 1876 to the end, 1891, is shown below, the figures for 1872 to 1875 being not obtainable anywhere:—

Class of School	Average number of Muhammadans per annum: 1876–1880.	Average number of Muhammadans pupils per annum: 1881—1885.	Muhammadan pupils in 1890-91.
1	2	3	4
English education ... High schools ...	70	102	200
English education ... Middle English schools ...	43	147	222
Purely vernacular education ... Middle vernacular schools	81	104	116
Purely vernacular education ... Primary schools ...	1,389	3,708	7,479
Purely vernacular education ... Primary schools for girls	...	35	30

83. With regard to the second point on which information is required, I beg to annex herewith six sets of statistical tables of schools and pupils, marked A, B, C, D, E, and F.

(1) Table A gives simple statistics of schools and pupils since 1872 to 1891. It should be remarked here, with reference to this table, that the figures for 1872 to 1877 include the schools and pupils of Howrah, and there is no means of separating the figures either for Howrah or for Hooghly proper for reasons already mentioned above. Column 6 of this table gives the average per annum for the quinquennial period from 1876 to 1880 from the existing records of the Inspector's office. This average is all that could be obtained.

(2) Table B contains the schools and pupils for the three census years, viz., end of 1871 or beginning of 1872, end of 1881, and end of 1891.

(3) Table C contains the results of the Calcutta University and the Departmental examinations for the census years, viz., 1872, 1881 and 1891.

(4) Table D shows the religion of pupils in all classes of schools for the three periods, viz., 1876—1880, 1881—1885, and 1890-91.

(5) Table E shows the occupation of the guardians of scholars returned in 1887. This is a very important table, as it is the only one of its kind now available, it having been in use for a year only before 1887, and since discontinued. It may be regarded as a typical table for purposes of generalizations regarding different classes of pupils receiving instructions in our schools.

(6) Table F shows the caste and creed of pupils returned in 1887. This is also another very important table now no longer in use The same remarks are applicable to this as those that have been made with regard to table E.

84. In regard to the third point, I beg to annex herewith four statements, marked I, II, III, and IV, giving the required information under the three heads therein specified regarding the spread of education in different parts of the district; and for the purposes of this section the district has been divided into four parts, corresponding to the four educational circles in 1887, each under a Sub-Inspector of Schools. The first part is the Serampore circle, consisting of Serampore, Chanditala, and Jangipara-Krishnagar *thanas*; the second part is the Hooghly circle, comprising *thanas* Hooghly, Polba, Singur, and Haripal; the third part is the Pandua circle, containing *thanas* Balagarh, Pandua, and Dhaniakhali; and the fourth part is the Jahanabad circle, comprising the *thanas* in the Jahanabad subdivision, namely, Jahanabad, Goghat, and Khanakul. The statements annexed for the purposes of the third point of enquiry refer to the educational condition of the district in 1887, as they have had to be prepared from the Departmental subsidiary tables Nos. I and II of that year, the information therein contained, and which is now required for this report, not being available in the Departmental returns of subsequent years. It may here be added that there is no material difference in the educational condition of the different parts of the district in 1887 and that at the end of the year 1890-91.

85. Statement No. I shows the spread of education in different parts of the district in relation to character, *i.e.*, the social position of the scholars according to the occupation of their guardians. The richer class includes those whose yearly income is above Rs. 5,000. The middle classes include those whose yearly income from service, estates, profession, or trades varies from Rs. 200 to Rs. 5,000, and the poorer classes are composed of men whose income from service, agriculture, trades, skilled labour, and common labour does not exceed Rs. 200 per annum.

86. Statement No. II shows the spread of education in different parts of the district in relation to the caste and creed of pupils. The Hindus have been divided into four classes, as shown in columns 5 to 12.

87. Statement No. III shows the spread of education in different parts of the district in relation purely to the religion of the scholars.

88. Statement No. IV shows schools and pupils of each *thana* of the district on the 31st March 1891.

89. It will be seen from Statement No. I that in the high English schools the proportion of pupils drawn from the richer class is the largest in the Serampore circle, it being 6·4 per cent. of the total number of pupils in these schools in that circle It will be also seen from column VII of this statement that the percentage of pupils in high schools on total school-going population is also highest in the Serampore circle. The percentage of pupils receiving English education and belonging to the middle classes is above 50 in all the circles except Jahanabad, where, in the middle English schools, the percentage falls to nearly 39. The proportion of pupils of the poorer classes is below fifty per cent. in the Anglo-Vernacular schools of all parts of the district, except in the middle English schools of the Jahanabad sub-division, where the percentage of such pupils is as high as 63·6. In the case of vernacular schools, however, the poorer classes predominate in all parts of the district, except in the middle vernacular schools of the Serampore and Hooghly circles, in which the majority of pupils belong to the middle class.

90. Statement No. II shows that in high and middle schools of all parts of the district the pupils belonging to the upper castes predominate, the percentage of pupils of these castes being on an average 59·6 for Jahanabad circle, 56·8 for the Serampore circle, 44 for Pandua, and 50 6 for the Hooghly circle.

91. In the matter of primary education the second class of Hindus, viz., the Navasakhas, predominate more or less in all the circles except Pandua. The third class, viz., carpenters and the like, show the largest percentage (24·7) in the Hooghly circle, and the smallest (4·7) in the Serampore circle. The fourth or the lowest class of Hindus is largest in number in the Jahanabad Circle, and smallest in Pandua.

92. As regards the fourth point of enquiry, there is nothing to be said, as there are no schools for aborigines, nor any aboriginal pupils in any of the schools of the district.

93. I am indebted for the above information to the Inspector of Schools, Western Circle.

94. For easy comparison of the figures of the Educational Department with those given in the census tables, I annex a statement below showing the population of both sexes of different religions under instruction.

1891.

All Religions.				Hindus.				Muhammadans.			
Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
Pupils as per census statistics.	Pupils as per educational statistics.	Pupils as per census statistics.	Pupils as per educational statistics.	Pupils as per census statistics.	Pupils as per educational statistics.	Pupils as per census statistics.	Pupils as per educational statistics.	Pupils as per census statistics.	Pupils as per educational statistics.	Pupils as per census statistics.	Pupils as per educational statistics.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
41,178	53,027	1,004	1,139	35,235	45,302	926	1,099	5,833	6,343	52	30

Such a comparison supplies valuable testimony to the trustworthiness of either set of statistics. While the Educational Department takes cognizance only of such scholars as are placed under its supervision, the census enumerators' figures include, or should include, in addition to these all those who are under private tuition or are at schools which do not recognize the authority of the Director of Public Instruction. Hence the scholars entered on the papers of a census must always be more numerous than those borne on the rolls of the Educational Department. But it will appear from the table that the reverse is the case. The result cannot be explained, but by supposing that the enumerators have not correctly filled up the column "under instruction." "A learner" might have been construed literally to mean "one who is learning to read and write." In so far then as this contracted meaning was accepted, instead of the wider one which the words were intended to convey, it is feared that some school children have been omitted from the column of "learners" because they could read and write and were no longer learning to do so. It will be observed that according to the census figures less than four per cent. of the total population are under instruction, while, according to the educational statistics, a little more than five per cent. of the total population represent the school-going population. If the percentage is compared with the percentage of primary scholars on the total population

of European countries as prepared in 1873 for the Report on the Vienna Exhibition, it will appear that the present state of education of the Hooghly district is superior to that of Portugal, Servia, and Russia, and is equal to what Greece was at that period.

95. The literate females returned in the census of 1881 were 1,643, whereas in 1891 they were increased to 3,986. The female pupils under instruction according to the present census are 1,004, against 746 in 1881. There has been thus a perceptible improvement in female education. But compared with the total population, the number is so small that it may be left out of calculation. Leaving out therefore the Hindu and Muhammadan females, it will be found that 8 per cent. of the Hindu male and 6 per cent. of the Muhammadan male population are under instruction according to the census figures. If the educational statistics be taken as more reliable, then 10 per cent. of the Hindu male and 9 per cent. of the Muhammadan male population will be found to be receiving education. The true significance of statistics of instruction, however, cannot be detected till they are examined in relation to age. From the statistics which have been given above, and from the remarks which have been made concerning them, the question of age has been purposely eliminated. It is obvious that the illiterates contain not only illiterate adults and the children not at schools, but also all the children who are not yet of age to commence their education. The census table does not give the necessary information to eliminate all those who are not of a school-going age. But from the information furnished I observe that out of every 100 Hindu and Muhammadan boys of the age 10-14, 19, and 13, respectively, are under instruction, and out of every 100 Hindu and Muhammadan boys of age 15-24, 7 and 5, respectively, are under instruction. The percentage of Hindu and Muhammadan boys of age 15-24 is the same, viz., 23. Of the population of above 25 years of age, 27 per cent. Hindus and 20 per cent. Muhammadans are found to be literate. While on this subject, I should point out that the proportion of Muhammadan male population to that of Hindu male population of the district is 1 : 4·7, and I should then refer to the educational statistics for the years 1890-91 under head primary education, and it will be found that the number of Muhammadan pupils in the primary schools is 7,479, whereas the number of Hindu pupils in these schools is 34,836, *i.e.*, the proportion is almost the same as 1 : 4·7. The Muhammadans have thus gained their lost ground so far as primary education is concerned. They are, however, still behind their Hindu fellow-subjects in higher education.

Head VII.—Language.

96. The table under this head received from the office of the Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal, apparently includes the British subjects in Chandernagore, otherwise I am unable to account for persons whose mother-tongue is French being found in this district. I confess myself surprised to hear that there are at present twenty-five persons in the district who speak Portuguese. I am certainly under the impression that the persons bearing Portuguese names in this district have Bengali for their mother-tongue. It may be that the tradition of Portuguese descent led these persons to assert that they still speak Portuguese, or that the enumerators made incorrect entries.

97. There is nothing remarkable in the fact that there are fourteen Armenians. This community was once a prosperous one, and there is at Chinsura a handsome Armenian church with graves covered with stone slabs, which bear testimony to the Armenians of the past having been a well-to-do community. They were doubtless attracted by commerce.

98. I am not aware that the languages spoken in other parts of India or Asia call for special remark, except in the case of Persian and Arabic. I do not believe that there are 413 persons having Persian or 149 having Arabic for their mother-tongue: these entries are, with rare exceptions, to be attributed to the vanity of local Muhammadans possessed of some knowledge of those classical languages. Another sort of vanity has led 32 nationalist Scotchmen to disavow English as their mother-tongue. I have added them to the English-speaking population.

99. With due deference to Mr. Grierson, I venture to think that the Hindi, Urdu, and Nagri languages are in this instance one and the same, and represent the language of Bihar, under whichever name, may be considered appropriate. The class of north-west men that come here, probably come from the east of that province, and their language does not differ greatly from that of Bihar.

100. Bengali is the language of 97·89 per cent. of the population, and the balance is thus shown:—

Subdivisions.	Sex Total.	Bengali.	Hindi.	Uriya.	Santhali.	Urdu.	Persian.	Arabic.	Nagri.	Punjabi.	Telegu.	English.	Gujrati.	Maghi.	French.	Portuguese.	Pushtu.	Armenian.	Scotch.	Total of English and Scotch.	Total of Hindi, Urdu and Nagri.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Sadar subdivision	399,616	391,421	5,376	609	1,001	672	317	5	83	1	1	101	1	3	7	12	2	4	...	101	5,459
Serampore do.	396,987	388,894	6,759	912	2,435	65	75	71	225	5	2	287	25	...	...	15	177	10	32	319	7,124
Jahanabad do.	367,107	363,707	2,653	190	428	21	21	73	...	11	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	2,948
Grand Total ...	1,076,710	1,054,022	14,788	1,711	3,864	758	413	149	308	17	3	388	26	3	8	25	181	14	32	420	15,531

101. The language of the Hooghly Muhammadans is Bengali. I have said elsewhere that they are seldom of different blood to their Hindu neighbours, and there is no reason whatever for their having any other language than Bengali. Foreign families settled for a generation

or two in the district also fall into the practice of talking Bengali, which becomes the mother-tongue of their descendants.

102. It is claimed for the Bengali of Hooghly that it is the Tuscan of the province. The banks of the sacred Bhagirathi are specially famous in this respect, save where Western education has led to a quaint habit of interlarding Bengali with English words and expressions. On the borders of Bankura and Midnapore the language assimilates to that of those districts, and is regarded as less pure.

103. There have been some changes in the foreign languages of the district as compared with the census of 1881 We have now twenty-six persons who talk Gujrati, three who talk Maghi, and seven who talk French, against none who talked these languages in 1881. On the other hand, the thirty-five who talked Kol and the twenty-one who talked Madrasi in 1881 have disappeared, though the three who talk Telugu might, I presume, be said to talk Madrasi, as I know of no language scientifically recognized as Madrasi. The inhabitants of the Madras Presidency talk either Tamil or Telugu or Canarese.

104. These trifling changes present no cause for comment: they are doubtless due to the temporary nature of the residence of foreigners in a strange land.

105. No comparison under this head is possible with the state of things in 1872, as the census returns of 1872 do not supply the necessary information.

Head VIII.—Castes.

106. The belief in the purifying influence of the divine Bhagirathi has always been a strong inducement for orthodox Hindus to settle on its banks, particularly the western bank, which is considered by them as sacred as Benares itself. This is why the upper castes, viz., Brahmans, Baidyas, and Kayasthas, who are more religiously disposed, abound in the riparian tract, between Guptipara on the north and Bali on the south. Kulinism, too, has not been without its influence in the growth of large communities of these castes in this tract. A rich family of a lower sept generally forms the nucleus of caste groups consisting of representatives of higher clans. Thus, for instance, around the Chaudhris has grown up a numerous community of Brahmans in Uttarpara, comprising Mukerjees, Chatterjees, and Banerjees, whose connection with the former as sons-in-law or daughters' children entitling them to lands has led to their settlement in the village.

107. Some of the trading and artizan castes, viz., Subarnabaniks, Tantis, Kansaris, and Kamars, too, are most numerous in the towns within the limits stated above. They all lived at Saptagram and on the Saraswati in its flourishing days, and since it lost its importance as a trade centre they have settled in other riparian towns.

108. According to the census returns, the most numerous caste in this district are the Bagdis. Their peculiar cast of features and position in the social scale jointly point to the conclusion that they represent an aboriginal tribe of Bengal whom the influence of their Aryan conquerors brought within the pale of Hinduism. In every typical village may be found Bagdis more or less.

109. Next to the Bagdis numerically are the Kaibarttas. They are older than the great Sanskrit epic poem *Mahabharata*, in which the great Vyasa is represented as having been born of a Kaibartta mother. The Kaibarttas are most numerous in those parts of Hooghly which adjoin the Midnapore district, where five principalities are said to have been founded by them centuries ago.

110. All other castes are scattered throughout the district, necessity and convenience having determined the locality of their residence. The following table compares the numbers of the people in each of the chief castes in 1881 and 1891:—

Name of caste.	Number in 1881.	Number in 1891.
1	2	3
Bagdi	134,115	157,304
Kaibartta	142,526	143,780
Brahman	76,271	74,991
Teli	47,038	54,603
Sadgop	61,021	56,288
Goala	46,134	38,602
Kayastha	25,484	29,177

Of all castes, the increase in the number of the Bagdis has been the greatest, and is explained by, first, the rise in the number of the pug mills in this district which has led to a large influx of Bagdi coolies from the western districts of this division; second, by the tendency of inferior castes to represent themselves to be Bagdis; and third, by the system of concubinage prevalent among Bagdi women whose offspring by persons of other castes pass for Bagdis.

111. The census returns show the greatest falling off in the number of the Sadgops. Emigration in so large numbers is out of the question. That the epidemics of cholera and fever that raged in this district in recent years should fall so heavily upon this particular caste is not credible. The most probable explanation of this decrease seems to be that something must have gone wrong with the enumeration either in 1881, or in 1891, or in both.

112. In comparing the figures against "Telis" it should be borne in mind that the Kalus were enumerated separately in 1881.

113 I give below a list of the Hindu castes in the district of Hooghly, arranged as far as possible in the order of precedence which they hold in local social esteem. It will not be out of place to preface it by the remark that though wealth and rank count a great deal with the Hindu society of to-day, orthodox Hinduism has always repudiated their authority as factors determining the social status of a caste. The most that can be said is that persons of inferior castes when in high ranks or in affluent circumstances are highly esteemed in public life.

Table of Social Precedence.

I. Clean castes—

(1) Brahmans.
(2) Kshatriya or Rajput.
(3) Baidya.
(4) Khatri.
(5) Agarwalas.
(6) Sat Sudra, subdivided into—
  (A) Kayastha and
  (B) Navasakha; again subdivided into—
    (*a*) Sadgop.
    (*b*) Teli.
    (*c*) Malakar.
    (*d*) Tambuli.
    (*e*) Tanti.
    (*f*) Kansari.
    (*g*) Sankhari.
    (*h*) Karmakar.
    (*i*) Kumhar.
    (*j*) Barui.
    (*k*) Maira.
    (*l*) Gandhabanik.
    (*m*) Baniya.
    (*n*) Napit.
(7) Aguri.

[NOTE.—The Baidyas, being the offspring of a Brahman father and a Vaisya mother, are, according to the *anulom* principle, superior to the Khatri, and some would say to the Rajput.]

II. Inferior Sudras, from whose hands a Brahman can take water, but whom he cannot serve as a priest without falling—

(1) Goala.
(2) Kaibartta.
(3) Kandu.
(4) Kurmi.
(5) Kahar.
(6) Kori.
(7) Baiti.
(8) Dhanuk.

III. Inferior Sudras from whose hands a Brahman cannot receive water without being defiled—

(1) Subarnabanik. | (2) Sarnakar. | (3) Rajwar.

IV. Sudras, whose touch is pollution—

(1) Sutradhar.
(2) Sunri.
(3) Jugi.
(4) Rajbansi.
(5) Tiyar.
(6) Pod.
(7) Jalia.
(8) Patni.
(9) Dhoba.
(10) Chasa Dhoba.
(11) Namasudra.
(12) Kaora.
(13) Bagdi.
(14) Buna.
(15) Kaura.
(16) Bauri.
(17) Sonthal.
(18) Dom.
(19) Hari.
(20) Patni.
(21) Bediya.
(22) Chamar.

The number of the people in each of the other castes recorded at the census is so small that their social status cannot be determined. They are all immigrants from other provinces, and have not yet settled in this district.

114. The Hon'ble Mr Risley has so exhaustively described the attributes and functions of each caste in his "Tribes and Castes of Bengal" that it is superfluous to attempt to give any account thereof in this report. I would therefore, in conclusion, offer the following remarks only having special reference to the census returns.

115. The Bhats are a class of Brahmans superior to the general caste Brahmans. There is no reason why they should not be included in the general group. Many of them are attached to the Tarakeswar Temple in this district as Pandas and often officiate as priests.

116. As to the relation of castes to the land, it may be stated that no caste, as a rule, belongs to any particular agricultural class. Among the *zamindars* and tenure-holders are found Brahmans, Kshatriyas, Badiyas, Kayasthas, Sadgops, Tambulis, and Kaibarttas, among the occupancy and non-occupancy *raiyats* all castes settled in this district, and among field labourers Sadgops, Kaibarttas, Napits, and some inferior castes whose touch is pollution to the Brahmans.

117. The *Brahmottar* tenures, which originated with the Brahmans, are now found to be held by other castes also by right of purchase. Such tenures are even now created in favour of Brahmans by rich Hindu landholders on particular occasions.

118. Field labourers are generally paid in money, and also food is occasionally given them. When they are *under-raiyats*, they halve the produce with their superior *raiyats*, to hold the land on payment of a certain stipulated rent in money or kind.

Head IX.—Occupations.

119. At the Bengal Census of 1891, Dr. Farr's system of classification of occupations was adopted. According to this system, the male population of Hooghly district has been classified thus—

Serial number.	Occupation.	Number of males in 1891.	Number of males in 1881.	Ratio between 3 and 4.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Government service ...	4,542	4,689	·96 : 1	Slight decrease.
2	Agricultural ...	301,174	172,613	1·75 : 1	Increase.
3	Personal service, &c. ...	22,327	14,871	1·5 : 1	,,
4	Industrial ...	92,195	50,870	1·8 : 1	,,
5	Commercial ...	15,869	16,182	·98 : 1	Slight decrease.
6	Professional ...	22,584	12,232	1·84 : 1	Increase.
7	Indefinite and independent.	69,448	217,495	·31 : 1	Decrease to about ⅓.
	Total ...	529,139	488,952		

120. From the above table it appears that there has been an increase in the number of persons engaged in all the classes of occupations, except under the heads of Government service, Commercial, and Indefinite and independent, in which there appears a decrease. The great diminution in class 7 is accounted for by the fact that in the census of 1881, 167,941 persons were returned as having no specified occupations, while in the census of 1891 only 98 persons have been returned under that head. The returns on occupation compiled in the Census Superintendent's office do not distinguish those who are actually employed in occupations and those who are dependent for their livelihood on them. The dependent members of the family either females or children, appear to have been returned as having the same occupation as that of the earning member of the family. The result has been that there appears in these returns such ridiculous entries as female soldiers, female officials, female pleaders, male midwives, &c., &c. The Government in their circular admit that there was confusion in filling up column 11 of the Census Schedule.

121. The following comparative table shows the proportion to the total number of male persons returned as occupied in each class in 1891, 1881, and 1872:—

Serial number.	Class.	1891.	1881.	1872 (including Howrah).	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
1	Government service ...	·85	·95	·97	
2	Agricultural ...	57·10	35·30	26·69	
3	Personal service ...	4·21	3·04	4·38	
4	Industrial ...	17·42	10·40	12·03	
5	Commercial ...	2·99	3·30	4·90	
6	Professional ...	4·26	2·50	2·71	
7	Indefinite and independent.	13·12	44·48	48·28	
	All occupations ...	100	100	100	

122. From the above table it appears that there has been an increased application to agricultural, industrial, and professional pursuits, and a slight decrease in the proportion of persons engaged in the Government service and commercial pursuits. The decrease in the proportion appearing in class 7 has been explained in paragraph 121.

123. I shall now proceed to examine the results of the census about occupations according to the scheme laid down in the Bengal Government Census Circular order on the subject of the present report.

A.—Agricultural Group.

124. The estates and tenures that are to be found in this district are principally the following:—

(1) *Zamindaris* or estates paying revenue direct to Government.

(2) Intermediate tenures paying rent to the *zamindars*, such as *patnis*, *darpatnis*, and *se-patnis*, *mukarrari* and *maurusi* holdings. *Mukarrari ijaras*, *ijaras*, *darijaras*, and *lakhiraj* holdings. According to the district records there are in the Hooghly and Howrah districts 5,206 revenue-paying estates, 418 revenue-free estates, 16,471 rent-paying tenures, and 28,720 rent-free tenures.

The number of recorded shareholders of estates is 17,720; the number of recorded shareholders of tenures is 51,403; the number of *raiyati* holdings is 339,183.

As the census returns do not give these details, it is not possible to check the above figures.

125. According to the census return the agricultural group of the Hooghly district is thus subdivided—

(*a*) Land occupants not cultivating		2,645
Tenants not cultivating		7,491
Tenants and sharers cultivating		273,688
Total ...		283,824
(*b*) Field labourers and crop watchers		8,926
(*c*) Growers of fruits, vegetables, &c.		2,190
(*d*) Agents and managers of landed estates		2,895
(*e*) Land managers, clerks, and servants		65
GRAND TOTAL ...		297,900

The corresponding total for census of 1881 is 157,408; or there has been an increase of about 89 per cent. This high percentage is accounted for by the fact that the bulk of 167,941 persons, who were returned in 1881 as having no specified occupations, has probably been returned this time under the head of agriculture.

126. The rates of wages of the field labourers vary not only with the distance of a place from Calcutta and the Sadar station, but also with the seasons. During the sowing and reaping seasons the rate is 6 annas per day in places near the banks of the Hooghly, and 4 annas in the interior. For weeding the land, and winnowing and threshing paddy, the rate is 4 annas, and 2½ or 3 annas, respectively. In all cases, and in all seasons, the *raiyats* have to pay a pice a day or some parched rice for tiffin in addition to the wages. Where labourers are paid by the month, the pay varies from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7, according to the locality and season.

B.—Professional Group.

127. The group may be subdivided thus—

(1) (*a*) Government service (Imperial and Provincial officers)		131
Office Superintendents, and clerks		505
Messengers, constables, &c.		800
Total ...		1,436
(*b*) Service of local and municipal bodies—		
Inspecting officer		1
Clerks		21
Total ...		22
(*c*) Village service—		
Accountant		2
Watchmen		3,082
Total ...		3,084

Total of (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), is 4,542. The number of watchmen is much below the exact figure. *Chaukidars* are much more numerous and must have been generally included under agriculture.

(2) *Religion*, including clergymen, ministers, priests, church and temple officers, &c.	9,144

(3) *Law*—

Pleaders		561
Mukhtears		222
Stamp vendors		39
	Total ...	822

(4) *Medicine*—

Medical practitioners	3,024
Vaccinator	67
Male midwife (evidently boys and male members of family dependent on the midwife) ...	158
Compounders, nurses, &c.	174
Total ...	3,423

(5) *Literature*, including public scribes, copyists, clerks 4,312

(6) *Education*, including inspectors, principals, professors, teachers, etc. 2,829

(7) *Engineering*—

Civil engineers and architects	5
Draughtsmen, &c.	88
Total ...	93

Total of the above seven classes is 25,165.

128. The following comparative table shows the percentage which the different professions bear to the total number of professions according to the census returns for 1891 and 1881:—

Serial Number.	Class of profession.	No. in 1891.	No. in 1881.	Per centage, 1891.	Per centage, 1881.	Ratio between 3 and 4.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Government service	4,542	4,680	18·04	30·59	·96:1	Slight decrease.
2	Religion ...	9,144	7,424	36·12	48·48	1·2:1	Increase.
3	Law ...	822	218	3·26	1·42	3·7:1	Do.
4	Medicine	3,423	1,692	13·60	11·03	2:1	Do.
5	Literature ...	4,312	314	17·13	2·04	13·7:1	Do.
6	Education	2,829	952	11·24	6·21	3:1	Do.
7	Engineering ..	93	38	·36	·24	2·4:1	Do.
	Total ...	25,165	15,327	100	100		

129. So the different professions stand in the following order according to the largeness of the number of persons engaged in them:—

(1) Religion, (2) Government service, (3) Literature, (4) Medicine, (5) Education, (6) Law, (7) Engineering.

The above table shows an increase in all the professions, except Government service, in which there has been a slight decrease.

The increase in the class of literature is not due to any increase in the number of authors, of whom there is a sad want, but it is due to the increase in the number of scribes copyists, clerks, &c., who have been returned under this head.

Religion includes a large number of Hindu priests, &c., who are by no means well educated, but who are engaged in performing religious ceremonies, &c.

C.—Commercial Group.

130. The group is subdivided thus—

(1) Mercantile persons and other general dealers ...	5,698
(2) Brokers, contractors, and farmers	600
(3) Carriers on railways	147
(4) ,, roads	4,211
(5) ,, canals and rivers	1,193
(6) Messengers and porters	1,433
(7) Engaged in storage	2,587
Total ...	15,869

The corresponding total for 1881 is 16,182; so there has been a slight decrease.

131. The principal towns or villages inhabited by a large population living principally by river traffic in this district are the following:—Saoraphuli, Baidyabati, Bhadreswar, Chinsura, Hooghly, Babuganj, Triben, and Balagarh. The traffic consists chiefly of rice,

paddy, oilseeds, salt, pulses, *ghi*, and piece-goods. The chief articles imported into the Hooghly district are common rice, European piece-goods, lime from Sylhet, Burdwan, and Raniganj, timber, and articles of luxury.

The principal exports are fine rice, silk, jute, cotton, cloth, vegetables, and brass and bell-metal utensils.

D.—Industrial Group.

132. The industrial group may be subdivided as follows:—

Industrial group Total—
92,195 for 1891.
50,870 for 1881.

I. Workers and dealers in mixed materials—
8,548 for 1891.
4,955 for 1881.

Workers and dealers in—	
Houses and buildings	6,266
Machines and tools	535
Boats	494
Books	345
Hukha stem	229
Musical instruments	216
Chemicals	186
Carriages, carts, &c.	92
Gunpowder and fireworks	50
Toys, &c.	37
Furniture	31
Carving and figures	28
Watches, &c.	27
Prints and pictures	12

II. Workers and dealers in textile fabrics and dress—
23,531 for 1891.
18,730 for 1881.

Workers and dealers in—	
Dress	13,857
Cotton	6,712
Jute fiax	2,340
Silk	505
Wool	117

III. Workers and dealers in food and drinks—
32,046 for 1891.
12,560 for 1881.

Workers and dealers in—	
Animal food	15,162
Vegetable food	6,542
Drinks, condiments, and narcotics	10,342

IV. Workers and dealers in animal substances—
2,038 for 1891.
349 for 1881.

Workers and dealers in—	
Leather, horns, bones, and grease	2,038

V. Workers and dealers in vegetable substances—
13,938 for 1891.
5,814 for 1881.

Workers and dealers in—	
Timber and wood	4,668
Cane work, matting, and leaves	3,276
Vegetable oil	2,272
Firewood and forage	1,542
Paper	1,387
Necklaces, beads, bracelets, &c.	811

VI. Workers and dealers in mineral substances—
12,094 for 1891.
8,472 for 1881.

Workers and dealers in—	
Earthenware	3,997
Gold, silver, and stones	3,389
Brass, copper, and bell-metal	2,198
Iron and steel	1,892
Kerosine oil	483
Coal	51
Glass and chinaware	42
Tin	38
Lead and mercury	4

133. From the above it appears that there has been an increase in all the six subdivisions, there being an increase of 1·8 times in the whole industrial group.

134. The most important manufacture carried on in this district is gunny-bags and cloth at the five jute mills in the Serampore subdivision. The amount of jute worked up during the year 1891 at these mills is put at over 13,70,000 maunds. Employment is afforded daily to about 13,000 persons.

Next comes the bone mill at Uttarpara, with an outturn during 1891 of 11,668 tons, and employing 225 persons daily.

Bricks and tiles are manufatured to a large extent at Kotrang and on the banks of the river between Telinipara and Uttarpara, and also on the Chandernagore and Bansbariya *chars*. Bull's patent bricks are manufactured on the Bandel *char* at Hooghly.

Considerable amount of cotton fabrics are manufactured at Kalme, Chakrabari, Khursarai, Mayapur, Guruk, Rajbalhat, and Begampur.

Superior kinds of mats are woven at Serampore, Bandipur, Akri, and Borai.

Brass and bell-metal work is carried on at Bansbariya and Khamarpara in the Sadar subdivision.

Ropes of jute and hemp are manufactured at Baidyabati, Krishnapur, Uttarpara, and Konnagar.

Baskets are made in the villages of Mayapur, Bandipur, and Madra.

Pottery of the common kind is made in the villages of Bhadreswar and Sukinda.

([redacted])

The Jahanabad subdivision, though backwards in many respects, enjoys a good name in the markets of Calcutta and other towns of importance for its manufactures. The following are the principal commodities manufactured in that subdivision:—

(1) Cotton goods—Country *dhuties*, *uranis*, *saris*, &c.
(2) Brass and bell-metal utensils.
(3) Ebony woodwork, such as sticks, pipes, *nalchas*, &c.
(4) Mats made of reeds.
(5) Silk and Tasar cloths. (These manufactures are now in a decaying state, being unable to compete with European piece-goods.)

E.—Pastoral Groups.

135. The domestic animals of the district consist of cows, bullocks, buffaloes, a few horses, goats, sheep, pigs, cats, dogs, fowls, ducks, and pigeons. Oxen, and in a very few instances buffaloes, are the only animals used in agriculture. Those reared for food or for purposes of trade are goats, sheep, pigs, ducks, and fowls.

136. The pastoral group is thus subdivided:—

(1)	Herdsmen	3,866
(2)	Cattle breeders and dealers	276
(3)	Sheep and goat breeders and dealers ...	53
(4)	Pig breeders and dealers	7
(5)	Veterinary surgeons and cattle doctors ...	7
(6)	Farriers and gelders	61
(7)	Horse and elephant trainers	4
	Total ...	4,274

F.—Hunting and Fishing Group.

137. Tigers are not found, but leopards are sometimes to be found in the north of the district. Wild hogs abound, and are very destructive in Hooghly and Pandua *thanas*. As regards small game, the rivers and marshes abound during the cold season in snipe, teal, wild ducks, and other species of water-fowl. With the exception of the fisheries, the *ferœ naturæ* are not made to contribute in any way towards the wealth of the district, nor is any trade carried on in wild-beast skins. Only a very trifling sum is annually spent in the shape of rewards for killing ferocious animals, and deaths by wild beasts are almost unknown. The census returns 30 as the number of *shikaries*, falconers, and bird-catchers in the district.

138. There are no regular fishing towns or villages in Hooghly, although fishing forms a part of the occupation of both men and women over a great portion of the district.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Fishermen	10,777	10,983	21,760
Fish-dealers	321	375	696
Total ...	11,098	11,358	22,456

No revenue is derived from the fisheries. No limit is placed upon the destruction of the finny tribes. Breeding fish and young fry are indiscriminately captured by means of traps, weirs, and nets with infinitesimally small meshes.

G.—Serving Groups.

139. This group is subdivided thus—

(*a*)	Barbers	2,788
	Washermen	2,415
	Water-carriers	399
	Cooks	791
	Indoor servants	1,267
	Grooms, coachmen	518
	Door-keepers	753
	Service (unspecified)	12,934
	Total ...	21,865
(*b*)	Hotel and lodging-house owners and managers	90
	Rest-house and *serai* owners and managers	93
(*c*)	Sweepers and scavengers	279
	Grand Total ...	22,327

The corresponding total for 1881 is 14,871, the ratio of the two being 1·5 : 1.

( )

H.—Unproductive Groups.

140. This group includes the following:—

Astrologers	...	...	33
Band masters and players	...	...	797
Actors, dancers, singers	...	...	811
Exhibitors of trained animals		...	74
Buffoons	...	...	2
Story and ballad reciters	...	...	46
Conjurors and fortune-tellers	..	...	22
Tumblers, acrobats, and wrestlers		...	77
	Total	...	1,862

I.—Indefinite and Independent Groups.

141. This group includes the following:—

(1) Unskilled labour—			
Tank-diggers and excavators		...	310
Road, canal, and railway labourers			3
Rice-pounders and huskers	...	...	5,617
General labour	...	...	54,943
	Total	..	60,873
(2) Indefinite and unspecified	...	...	98
Disreputable	...	...	295
(3) Property and allowances	...	...	2,275
(4) Mendicancy	...	...	5,353
(5) Pensioners	...	...	300
(6) Prisoners	...	...	254
	Grand Total	...	69,448

According to the census of 1881 this group includes the following:—

(1) General labourers	...	...	39,617
(2) Persons of indefinite occupations		...	2,715
(3) Persons of rank and property, not returned under any office or occupation		...	2,896
(4) Vagrants	...	...	4,326
(5) Persons of no specified occupation		...	167,941
	Total	...	217,495

The majority of those who were returned in 1881 as having no specified occupations has been returned this time under other heads.

Occupations of Females.

142. Having thus far dealt with the occupations of the male population of Hooghly district, I shall now deal with the occupation of the females. The statistics on this subject are extremely unsatisfactory. As a female's occupation is returned as that of the husband or father, it is impossible to ascertain to what extent the females are actually employed in the different occupations.

143. The following table shows the female population as classified into different classes of occupations according to the census of 1891 and 1881:—

Serial Number	Occupations.	Number in 1891.	Number in 1881.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Government service	4,533	Nil	
2	Agricultural ...	304,275	21,056	
3	Personal service ...	22,541	8,738	
4	Industrial ...	101,611	48,119	
5	Commercial ...	14,771	2,763	
6	Professional ...	23,271	1,767	
7	Indefinite and independent ...	76,569	441,373	
	Total ...	547,571	523,816	

144. In the census of 1881 females were not entered as employed unless they were engaged on special work of a distinctly definite character. Married women and girls employed in household work were shown as unemployed; so no distinctions were observed between those who were actually unemployed and those who, in India as elsewhere in all countries and at all times, have as little claim as any one to be called idle, viz, the housewives, the mothers of families, and the busy consorts of men of the middle and lower classes. For this reason the majority of the females were shown in the census return of 1881 in class 7 as having no occupations.

On the other hand in the census of 1891 a female's occupation has been returned as that of the husband or father. Hence these statistics are almost valueless, as they merely show the occupations of the husband or father of the females, and not their own occupations. This accounts for the entry of 4,533 females in the Government service as referred to in paragraph 144.

145. The following table gives a list of occupations in which the females probably take actual share to a considerable extent:—

Occupation.		Number of females employed 1891.
(1) Rice-pounders and huskers	...	22,871
(2) Service unspecified	...	13,025
(3) Fisherwomen	...	10,983
(4) Priestess	...	10,066
(5) Agricultural labour	...	9,564
(6) Green grocer, &c.	...	8,297
(7) Cotton-weaver	...	8,067
(8) Mendicancy	...	4,757
(9) Grain-dealer	...	4,534
(10) Potters, &c.	...	4,245
(11) Confectioner	...	3,076
(12) Basket-maker	...	2,838
(13) Oil-presser and seller	...	2,815
(14) Masons	...	2,447
(15) Indoor servants	...	2 439
(16) Washerwomen	...	2,437
(17) Female barber	...	2,364
(18) Cowdung fuel dealer	...	2,188
(19) Cattle herd	...	1,477
(20) Mat-maker	...	1,409
(21) Grain-parcher	...	1,279
(22) Cotton-spinner and sizer	...	1,156
(23) Pan-seller	...	777
(24) Firewood-seller	...	641
(25) Cook	...	567
(26) Midwife	...	545
(27) Shopkeeper	...	491
(28) Vegetable and fruit-seller	...	472
(29) Fish-dealer	...	375
(30) Pulse and flour-preparer and seller	...	342
(31) Water-carrier	...	315
(32) Flax-spinner, weaver, and seller	...	109
(33) Bamboo-worker	...	85

146. An analysis of these occupations will show that while some of them are employments which are the special province of women, and others are those in which they share the work with the men of their families, there are many in which it is hard to say how far the women are really the bread-winners themselves and how far they are merely the wives of bread-winners. In cultivation and shopkeeping, for instance, it is impossible to estimate how many of those returned as employed, really take a part in field work or the work of the shop, and how many are only the wives of cultivators and shopkeepers. The females returned as general labourers on the other hand are probably actually employed as such: so are the women who are returned as engaged in different services. In several of these occupations the wife notoriously helps her husband: thus the fish caught by the males of the family are sold by the women; so with the milk-sellers and green-grocers who sell in the streets the produce of the cowbyre and the garden. Women are not usually employed in outdoor agricultural operations, but, after the crops have been reaped, the women assist in the labour of threshing, and almost exclusively perform the winnowing operations. The women may any day be seen working with the men at basket-making, bamboo work, cloth-weaving, and mat-making, which are all employments of the lower castes. The special occupations of the women are all fairly, though not perhaps adequately, represented in the returns. These are the husking, grinding, and parching of grain, the spinning of thread, the collection and sale of cowdung for fuel, and the profession of midwifery.

147. It may perhaps be considered desirable to consider the occupations of the people with reference to their religion, and also according as they are followed by the urban and rural population of the district But as census statistics on these important points have not been received as yet, it is not possible to deal with the subject at present.

HEAD X.—ADMINISTRATIVE.

148. I am not aware of any case in which the general instructions were materially departed from. The heading "Serial Number" in column 4 of the block list was differently interpreted and it was not properly understood even by those most responsible for the work. In most circles in this district the total number of people in each house was entered in this column, though the words "serial number" can hardly bear this meaning. In some cases, however, the "serial number" in column 2 of the block statement and that in column 4 have been very nearly the same. This, however, is a matter of little importance, and has not affected the census one way or the other.

149. The definition of a village in Circular No. 10 was followed in connection with the census.

150. The definition of a house, as given in the second instruction to supervisors, is a most convenient one and is well suited for census purposes, inasmuch as it makes the family the unit of the system.

151. The size of a charge was conterminous with that of a *thana* or outpost. This was very convenient, as in this district each Sub-Inspector of Police in charge of a *thana* was Superintendent of that particular census charge.

152. The size of the circle in this district exceeded in many cases 500 houses. The size of the block as a rule did not exceed 50 houses. In municipal areas this might be increased to 75 houses. Fifty is large enough for the more scattered rural blocks.

153. The actual cost of numbering of houses could not have been large. A few seers of tar was all that was required.

154. In municipalities it is easy enough to number houses permanently. It is somewhat difficult in rural areas where the mud walls of a house are apt to be affected by the rains and either new walls are raised or old ones restored. However, it is not impracticable by any means to number such houses permanently. In my opinion the cost for such numbering should be borne by the house owner, and if there be any cases in which the proprietor of the house is too poor to bear the cost, the *zamindar* of the village should be called upon to do it. The Subdivisional Officer of Serampore reports that in the municipality of Serampore some sort of permanent numbering has been attempted.

155. The supervisors were generally men of some local influence and were recruited from *zamindars* and their *naibs*, schoolmasters, &c. Enumerators were chiefly drawn from the large class of *Bhadralogues* which, to quote the Subdivisional Officer of Serampore, supplies "the applicants for every clerkship that is vacant." In some cases well-to-do cultivators were also made enumerators.

156. It may be said of the district generally that the supervisors undertook their duties willingly. The duties of the enumerators were undertaken, if not with cheerfulness, at any rate in a spirit of submission to the inevitable. It was only in a very few cases that there was any persistent grumbling on the part of the enumerators.

157. There were about a dozen prosecutions in the whole district under section 10 of the Census Act. In some of these cases a nominal fine was considered sufficient, and in most cases the mere issue of a notice was enough to frighten the refractory enumerators into submission.

158. The duties of a supervisor involved a small pecuniary expenditure in such items as pens, ink, tar, &c.

159. No paid census officers have been employed in the district.

160. Except amongst the most ignorant strata of the population there were no erroneous ideas current on the subject of the census. In the coolie *bastis* in Serampore it was thought taxation was the object of Government.

161. The Subdivisional Officer of Jahanabad reports that "the great details required in the column of profession, led many people to suspect that some extension of the Income-tax Act or imposition of some other tax was under contemplation, while a tenure-holder told me that the details regarding 'labourers,' he supposed, were required for the preliminary enquiries to give agricultural labourers and *korfa raiyats* still greater facilities by legislation for acquiring the occupancy rights." From my experience, I can say, whatever might have been the case in 1881, there was hardly any rumour or erroneous idea about the present census in circulation amongst the *Bhadralogues* of the district.

162. I am of opinion that the results of the census are generally accurate. The preliminary census which was in progress from the middle of January to the middle of February was taken with great care. This made the final checking on the night of the 26th February a comparatively easy task, and ensured the correctness of the census in the whole district.

163. The system of tabulation and abstraction ultimately, on the whole, worked smoothly and well, but I am inclined to think that the difficulty of training the raw establishment was never fully realized, the pay offered was not such as to command a high class of workmen. During the process of instruction the work dragged: as men were weeded out or left the office in disgust, other raw hands took their places, delaying thereby the perfect training of the establishment as a whole. Similar checks were met with when ill-health thinned the ranks. I see that it has been proposed to strengthen the gangs at the outset, so as to admit of shrinkage due to the above causes. This would certainly expedite the formation of an efficient establishment, but the proposal is out of keeping with the exceptionally strict economy that has been observed in the census work.

164. There was, in my opinion, too much hurrying, which also may be attributed to the motive of economy. No work can be really well done that is done hurriedly, and it some

times appeared to me unjust to punish the worker for defects which were in part at least chargeable to the system.

165. The trained establishment was able to turn out the amount of work required with sufficient practice, except in the case of entering 50 blocks a day in registers XIV, XV*a*, XV*b*, XIX, and XX in addition to working in special totalling forms, the latter work being transferred from the office of the Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal, to the district offices at a rather late stage. Our best workers failed to accomplish what was asked.

166. It has been proposed to raise the pay of abstractors to Rs. 18, the payment of one-third of this sum to be deferred till the work is tested or approved. The protracted withholding of pay—some is still withheld—does not commend itself to me.

167. The arrangement proposed for a reabstraction and adjustment will, I fear, prove a hard measure. It will practically reduce an abstractor's pay to Rs. 12 a month. In abstracting schedule books, errors cannot be altogether avoided. Some margin should therefore be allowed. Out of 100 sheets abstracted, allowance may be made for 10 inaccurate ones. If inaccuracy goes beyond that limit, no claim to the balance of pay should be admitted. This leniency may be shown at least in the case of the difficult abstraction sheets.

168. I have nothing to say in regard to the forms prescribed for use. Practically no difficulty was experienced in filling them up.

169. The limit of adjustment may be fixed at 2 per cent. The sanction of the Census Deputy Magistrate should be made a condition to adjustment above 1 per cent. But adjustment is a work which must be done intelligently and after due consideration of the circumstances in each case.

170. The instructions issued by the Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal, from time to time, were quite sufficient for the guidance of all concerned, but being scattered over a good number of circulars, some were apt to be overlooked. It would be an advantage to have all the instructions embodied in a brief census code, which can be easily corrected as occasion arises.

171. I would strongly urge the necessity of explaining to candidates for employment in a district census office the conditions on which they are employed. There should be no misapprehension whatever from the very beginning as to the daily task concerning each sheet register or totalling forms, and the degree of accuracy without which no work, however quickly done, would be paid for. I do not think that it was in my power to do this till a comparatively advanced stage of the work.

A.

Statistics of Schools and Pupils.

Class of Schools.	(Hooghly with Howrah.)				(Pure Hooghly District or Hooghly District Proper.)											
	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876 to 1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
General Education.																
Colleges.																
Number of colleges ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	
„ of scholars ...	142	20	93	113	167	194	194	156	130	141	143	104	185	214	175	
Secondary Education.																
High English Schools.																
Number of schools ...	28	30	26	25	20	20	20	22	25	26	26	22	22	23	29	
„ of scholars ...	4,424	4,550	4,325	3,995	3,082	3,563	3,851	4,123	4,323	4,415	4,443	3,762	3,980	4,127	4,836	
Middle English Schools.																
Number of schools ...	29	31	30	35	23	34	30	29	30	32	40	40	40	47	46	
„ of scholars ...	1,684	1,452	1,567	1,830	1,163	1,655	1,676	1,625	1,656	1,839	2,469	2,563	2,585	3,057	3,216	
Middle Vernacular Schools.																
Number of schools ...	64	69	60	61	39	39	38	41	45	47	45	44	42	36	35	
„ of scholars ...	3,862	3,775	3,487	3,715	2,270	2,353	2,505	2,589	3,021	2,985	2,624	2,370	2,640	2,351	2,261	
Primary Education.																
Primary Schools.																
Number of schools ...	301	997	287	294	253	1,247	1,420	1,517	1,555	1,528	1,278	1,479	1,404	1,409	1,551	
„ of scholars ...	8,617	18,318	7,792	10,452	11,306	24,604	27,826	29,795	31,934	34,069	32,216	36,042	37,692	34,445	41,060	
Female Education.																
Girls' Schools.																
Number of schools ...	22	24	23	29	24	30	29	55	55	33	38	34	37	36	38	
„ of scholars ...	634	697	708	909	543	594	.....	.....	1,029	1,130	931	1,105	1,172	1,256	1,155	
Schools for Special Education.																
Training Schools.																
Number of schools ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
„ of scholars ...	105	110	90	95	68	108	102	112	109	110	111	107	111	130	140	
Guru-training Classes attached to middle schools.																
Number of schools ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	1	1	1	
„ of scholars ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	5	5	5	5	
Madrassas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Number of schools ...	.....	1	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
„ of scholars ...	.....	21	32	41	32	128	135	60	60	58	60	55	58	81	88	
Survey Schools.																
Number of schools ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
„ of scholars ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Private Schools.																
Number of schools ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	49	138	75	192	168	9	
„ of scholars ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	441	1,840	1,127	589	

B.

Statistics of Schools and Pupils for three census years only.

Class of Schools.	1871.		1881.		1891.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
College	1	152	...	...	...	...
High English ...	18	2,634	20	3,563	30	4,902
Middle English ...	21	1,348	34	1,655	49	3,168
Middle Vernacular ...	47	2,973	39	2,353	38	2,158
Primary schools ...	153	7,778	1,247	24,604	1,625	42,315
Girls' schools ...	19	535	30	594	37	1,139
Training schools ...	1	142	1	108	1	129
Guru-training classes attached to middle schools.	...	...	...	...	1	5
Madrassa	1	54	3	128	2	88
Private schools ...	...	...	...	...	124	862

C.

Results of Examination.

Names of Examination.	1872.		1881.		1891.	
	Number appeared.	Number passed.	Number appeared.	Number passed.	Number appeared.	Number passed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B.A.	18	7	26	10	25	10
F.A.	56	17	61	32	99	52
Entrance	217	87	196	85	229	102
Middle English ...	31	9	45	37	77	46
" Vernacular ...	152	88	97	70	137	85
Upper Primary ...	...	...	69	41	138	53
Lower " ...	...	...	389	176	1,293	596

Thirty-four have passed the M.A. Examination up to this date.

D.

Religion of Pupils.

Class of Schools.	1876-80. Average per annum.								1881-85. Average per annum.								1890-91. Average per annum							
	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Aboriginals.	Others, including Native-Christians.	Total.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Aboriginals.	Others, including Native-Christians.	Total.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Aboriginals.	Others, including Native-Christians.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
College.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	104	86	15	3	...	...	104
High Schools ...	20	3,082	3,002	70	...	...	10	3,082	22	4,055	3,931	102	1	...	21	4,055	30	4,902	4,643	206	1	3	15	4,902
Middle English	23	1,163	1,118	43	...	...	2	1,163	31	1,690	1,540	147	1	1	1	1,690	49	3,168	2,945	222	1	...	...	3,168
Middle Vernacular	39	2,270	2,185	81	...	...	4	2,270	52	2,690	2,380	104	...	1	5	2,690	38	2,158	2,039	116	...	...	3	2,158
Primary	563	11,306	9,917	1,389	...	...	...	11,306	1,455	29,645	25,737	3,908	..	...	...	29,645	1,625	42,315	34,836	7,479	...	...	...	42,315
Girls	24	543	532	...	8	...	3	543	45	917	864	35	8	...	10	917	37	1,139	1,099	30	3	...	7	1,139
Training	1	69	69	...	...	...	...	69	1	108	107	1	...	...	...	108	1	129	127	2	...	...	...	129
Guru-training Class attached to Middle Schools.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	5	...	...	...	...	5
Madrassa... ...	2	32	...	32	...	...	...	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	88	...	88	...	...	...	88
Survey	1	23	23	...	...	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Private	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	124	862	641	221	...	...	...	862

Return of the Caste and Creed of Pupils at the Schools in the Hooghly district during the years 1886 *and* 1887.

Class of Schools.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Hindus.										Musalmans.		Christians.						Aboriginals.					
			Brahmans, Rajputs, Baidayas, Kayasthas, and Babhans.		Navasakhas.		Carpenters, goldsmiths, &c., &c.		Chamars, Doms, Haris, and Pods.		Total.				Europeans.		Eurasians.		Native-Christians.		Native-Christians.		Christians.		Non-Christians.	
			Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Total percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.	Total number.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
College	1	104	62	...	8	...	16	...	...	...	86	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
High English schools ...	24	4,400	2,624	59·64	1,012	23·00	545	12·38	18	·41	4,199	...	174	4·00	6	·13	...	...	19	·44	...	...	...	...	...	...
Middle English ...	40	2,563	1,316	51·34	780	28·49	275	10·74	41	1·61	2,362	...	200	7·81	1	0·1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Vernacular	44	2,510	1,231	49·01	770	30·67	302	12·03	43	1·72	2,345	...	160	6·37	...	...	...	...	5	·20	...	...	...	...	...	...
Primary schools	1,473	36,042	6,247	17·34	14,310	39·70	5,118	14·20	4,472	12·41	34,147	...	5,895	16·35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Girls' schools	34	1,105	491	44·44	254	22·99	285	25·79	25	2·26	1,055	...	29	2·62	11	·98	...	...	10	·92	...	...	...	...	...	...
Training schools	1	107	58	54·20	27	25·23	21	19·62	...	...	106	...	1	·95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madrassa	2	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	1·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guru-training classes attached to Middle schools	2	10	4	40·00	3	30·00	3	30·00	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Private	75	441	265	60·09	...	...	...	...	...	...	265	...	176	39·91	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

E.

Occupation of Parents or Guardians of Pupils at Schools in the Hooghly district during the year 1887.

Class of Schools.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils on the rolls.	Richer classes of society (yearly income above Rs. 5,000).	Percentage of richer classes of Society.	Middle class of society (yearly income from Rs. 200 to Rs. 5,000).							Poorer classes of society (yearly income not exceeding Rs. 200).							
					Government service.	Private service.	Estates.	Professions.	Trades.	Total.	Percentage of middle class of society.	Service.	Agriculture.	Trades.	Skilled labour.	Common labour.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Percentage of poorer classes.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
College	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
High English schools	24	4,410	173	3·93	636	964	539	502	523	3,164	71·91	316	250	243	64	60	130	1,063	24·16
Middle English ...	40	2,563	54	2·11	161	322	264	197	285	1,229	47·95	334	449	197	65	68	167	1,280	49·94
,, Vernacular...	44	2,510	70	2·78	140	34·5	223	135	330	1,173	46·75	279	473	183	107	29	186	1,267	50·39
Primary schools ...	1,479	36,042	146	·48	588	902	1,545	228	1,633	4,896	13·58	4,567	16,935	3,015	1,514	3,202	1,767	31,000	86·02
Girls' schools	34	1,105	82	7·42	148	167	65	43	109	532	48·14	93	149	182	22	21	30	491	44·46
Training schools ...	1	107	...	...	...	9	4	5	17	35	32·11	14	48	7	...	...	3	72	67·89
Madrassa	2	55	1	1·81	...	5	3	2	14	24	43·63	8	7	15	...	...	...	30	51·56
Guru-training classes attached to Middle schools	2	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	10	1·00
Private schools ...	75	441	...	...	...	9	146	22	28	205	44·21	43	106	58	9	9	11	236	55·79

No. I.

Statement showing the Social Position of the Scholars in the Schools in the district of Hooghly for Secondary and Primary Education in 1887 *according to the Occupation and Income of their Guardians.*

	Name of Circle.	Population of the circle.	School-going population of the circle.	Schools.	Pupils.	Percentage of pupils at school on total school-going population.	Richer classes.		Middle classes.		Poorer classes.	
							Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9		10	
English Education.	*High English Schools.*											
	Serampore circle	103,584	15,537	7	1,588	10·2	102	6·4	1,138	71·7	348	21·9
	Hooghly ,, ...	119,982	17,997	6	989	5·5	10	1·01	688	69·57	291	29·42
	Pandua ,, ...	98,355	14,753	6	747	5·0	14	1·9	474	63·5	259	34·6
	Jahanabad ,, ...	168,110	25,216	3	438	1·7	1	·23	297	67·80	140	31·97
	Total ...	.....	.....	22	3,762	...	127	3·38	2,597	69·03	1,038	27·59
	Middle English Schools.											
	Serampore circle	.....	.....	6	467	3·0	2	·44	242	51·81	223	47·75
	Hooghly ,, ...	.....	.....	14	1,033	5·7	35	3·4	533	51·6	465	45·
	andua ,, ...	.....	.....	8	371	2·5	6	1·6	213	57·5	152	40·9
	Jahanabad ,, ...	.....	.....	12	692	2·8	11	1·6	241	34·8	440	63·6
	Total ...	.....	.....	40	2,563	...	54	2·2	1,229	47·9	1,280	49·9
	Total of Schools for English Education	.....	.....	62	6,325	...	181	2·9	3,826	60·5	2,318	36·6
Vernacular Education.	*Middle Vernacular Schools.*											
	Serampore circle	.....	.....	17	1,274	8·2	36	2·8	694	54·5	544	42·7
	Hooghly ,, ...	.....	.....	2	100	·5	1	1·	64	·64	35	·35
	Pandua ,, ...	.....	.....	18	781	3·1	31	4·	273	·35	477	·61
	Jahanabad ,, ...	.....	.....	7	355	1·4	2	·57	142	·40	211	59·43
	Total ...	.....	.....	44	2,510	...	70	2·8	1,173	42·7	1,267	50·5
	Primary Schools including Girls' Schools.											
	Serampore circle	.....	.....	240	6,958	45	35	·5	1,559	22·4	5,364	77·1
	Hooghly ,, ...	.....	.....	427	9,021	50·1	173	1·9	2,056	22·8	6,792	75·3
	Pandua ,, ...	.....	.....	319	6,514	44·1	20	·3	735	11·2	5,759	88·5
	Jahanabad ,, ...	.....	.....	527	14,654	58·1	...		1,078	7·3	13,576	92·7
	Total ...	.....	.....	1,513	37,147		228	·6	5,428	14·6	31,491	84·8
	Total for Vernacular Education	.....	.....	1,557	39,657	...	298	·7	6,601	16·6	32,758	82·7

No. II.

Statement showing the Castes of Pupils in the Schools for Secondary and Primary Education in the district of Hooghly in 1887.

Names of Circles.	Class of Schools.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Hindus of the Class.										Muhammadans.		Christians.		Aborigines.		Total.	
				Brahmans, &c.		Navasakhas, &c.		Carpenters, &c.		Chamars, &c.		Total.									
				Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	English Education.																				
Serampore ...	High English schools ...	7	1,588	1,034	65·1	409	25·7	128	8·0	7	·04	1,578	99·37	10	·63	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,588	100
Hooghly ...		6	989	464	47·0	343	34·6	147	14·8	5	·05	959	97·0	18	1·8	12	1·2	.....	.....	989	100
Pandua ...		6	747	508	68·0	105	14·0	99	13·2	5	·66	717	96·0	22	3·0	8	1·0	.....	.....	747	100
Jahanabad ...		3	438	340	77·6	33	7·5	50	11·4	1	·22	424	96·9	14	3·1	.....	.....	.....	.....	438	100
	Total ...	22	3,762	2,346	62·3	890	23·6	424	11·3	18	·5	3,678	97·7	64	1·7	20	·6	.....		3,762	100
Serampore ...	Middle English schools ...	6	467	250	53·5	143	30·7	20	4·2	5	1·1	418	89·5	49	10·5	.....	.....	.....	.....	467	100
Hooghly ...		14	1,033	526	50·9	285	27·6	125	12·1	22	2·1	958	92·7	74	7·3	1	·1	.....	.....	1,033	100
Pandua ...		8	371	191	51·6	82	22·1	42	11·3	3	·7	318	85·7	53	14·3	.....	.....	.....	.....	371	100
Jahanabad ...		12	692	349	50·4	220	31·8	88	12·7	11	1·6	668	96·5	24	3·5	.....	.....	.....	.....	692	100
	Total ...	40	2,563	1,316	51·3	730	28·4	275	10·7	41	1·6	2,362	92·0	200	8	1	.....	.....	.....	2,563	100
	Total for schools for English education.	62	6,325	3,662	57·8	1,620	25·6	699	11·0	59	·9	6,040	95·5	264	4·2	21	·3	.....	.....	6,325	100
	Vernacular Education.																				
Serampore ...	Middle Vernacular schools ...	17	1,274	654	51·7	392	30·9	160	12·3	12	·6	1,218	95·5	56	4·5	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,274	100
Hooghly ...		2	100	54	54·	17	17	16	16·0	2	2·0	89	89·0	11	11·0	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
Pandua ...		10	781	342	43·7	224	28·7	105	13·5	19	2·4	690	88·3	86	11·0	5	·7	.....	.....	781	100
Jahanabad ...		7	355	180	50·7	137	38·5	21	5·9	10	2·8	348	98·0	7	2·0	.....	.....	.....	.....	355	100
	Total ...	44	2,510	1,230	49·	770	30·7	302	12·0	43	2·3	2,345	94·0	160	6·0	5	.....	..		2,510	100
Serampore ...	Primary schools, including girls' schools ...	240	6,958	1,437	20·6	2,975	42·7	333	4·7	1,043	15·0	5,788	83·0	1,170	17·0	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,958	100
Hooghly ...		427	9,021	1,824	20·2	2,954	32·7	2,226	24·7	1,104	12·3	8,108	89·9	892	9·9	21	·2	.....	.....	9,021	100
Pandua ...		319	6,514	1,362	30·4	1,490	22·8	928	14·5	172	2·5	4,572	70·2	1,942	29·8	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,514	100
Jahanabad ...		527	14,654	1,495	10·3	7,145	48·8	1,416	9·6	2,678	18·2	12,734	86·9	1,920	13·1	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,654	100
	Total ...	1,513	37,147	6,738	18·2	14,564	38·9	4,903	13·2	4,997	13·6	31,202	83·9	5,924	16·0	21	·1	.....	.....	37,147	100
	Total for schools for Vernacular education.	1,557	39,657	7,968	.....	15,334	.....	5,205	...	5,040	.....	33,547	.....	6,084	.....	26	...	.....	.....	39,657	.....

No. III.

Statement showing the number of schools of each class in the different circles or parts of the Hooghly district, together with the number of pupils attending them and the creed of such pupils at the end of 1890-91.

	Name of Thana.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Christians.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
English Education.	High English Schools—					
	Serampore circle ...	8	1,800	1,781	18	1
	Hooghly „ ...	9	1,559	1,428	121	10
	Pandua „ ...	7	861	824	29	8
	Jahanabad „ ...	6	682	650	32	...
	Total ...	30	4,902	4,683	200	19
	Middle English Schools—					
	Serampore circle ...	7	510	491	19	...
	Hooghly „ ...	19	1,372	1,284	87	1
	Pandua „ ...	9	452	395	57	...
	Jahanabad „ ...	14	834	775	59	...
	Total ...	49	3,168	2,945	222	1
	Total for schools for English Education	79	8,070	7,628	422	20
Vernacular Education.	Middle Vernacular schools—					
	Serampore circle ...	11	981	947	34	...
	Hooghly „ ...	5	214	207	7	...
	Pandua „ ...	8	392	345	44	3
	Jahanabad „ ...	14	571	540	31	...
	Total ...	38	2,158	2,039	116	3
	Primary schools, including girls' schools.					
	Serampore circle ...	317	8,979	7,714	1,265	...
	Hooghly „ ...	473	10,072	8,918	1,144	10
	Pandua „ ...	268	6,213	4,292	1,921	...
	Jahanabad „ ...	604	18,190	15,011	3,179	...
	Total ...	1,662	43,454	35,935	7,509	10
	Total for schools for Vernacular Education ...	1,700	45,612	37,974	7,625	13

No. IV.

Statement showing the state of Education in each thana of the Hooghly district on the 31*st March* 1891.

Name of Thana.	High Schools.		Middle English Schools.		Middle Vernacular Schools.		Primary Schools.		Girls' Schools.		Training Schools.		Madrassa.		Guru-training classes.	
	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Serampore Circle—																
Serampore	6	1,398	...	...	9	864	49	1,685	7	432	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chanditola	2	402	1	126	2	117	103	4,748	2	65	...	...	1	19	...	...
J.-Krishnagar	...	...	6	384	...	...	60	2,040	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	8	1,800	7	510	11	981	308	8,492	9	497	...	...	1	19	...	...
Hooghly Circle—																
Polba	...	...	7	398	2	76	46	968	4	81	...	...	...	...	...	...
Singur	...	...	3	104	1	73	220	4,081	1	18	...	...	...	...	...	...
Haripal	3	226	4	219	...	...	148	3,234	2	27	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hooghly	6	1,333	5	591	...	...	40	1,345	12	318	1	129	1	69	...	...
Total ...	9	1,559	19	1,372	3	149	454	9,628	19	444	1	129	1	69	...	...
Dhaniakhali—																
Pandua	2	187	4	208	5	285	124	2,800	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
Balagarh	3	401	3	150	3	107	98	2,476	5	119	...	...	...	...	...	...
	2	273	2	119	2	65	39	797	1	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	7	861	9	452	10	457	261	6,073	7	140	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jahanabad Circle—																
Jahanabad	2	185	6	317	5	231	218	6,497	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Goghat	1	82	3	182	9	340	180	5,838	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Khanakul	3	415	5	335	...	...	204	5,797	2	58	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	6	682	14	834	14	571	602	18,132	2	58	...	...	...	...	1	5
Grand Total ...	30	4,902	49	3,168	38	2,158	1,625	42,315	37	1,139	1	129	2	88	1	5

L. A.—Reg. No. 1150J—90—22-11-94.

(95)

DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

No. 293C., dated Howrah, the 2nd April 1892.

From—G. A. GRIERSON, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

WITH reference to your Circular No. 28, dated the 4th December 1891, I have the honour to submit the Census Report, drafted according to the instructions contained in your circular No. 6T.F., dated the 3rd October 1891.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF HOWRAH, 1891.*

HEAD I.—EARLY HISTORY, ETC.

1. *Distribution of Population.*—About the middle of the 9th century, during Raja Ballal Sen's reign, Bengal was divided into five provinces, viz., Rarh, Bagri, Banga, Barendra, and Mithila, which were separated from each other by the courses of the Ganges and the Pudda in Lower Bengal, and the Karataya and the Mahananda in Upper Bengal. These divisions correspond to some extent with modern divisions, viz., Rarh corresponding in part with the Burdwan Division, Bagri with the Presidency Division, Banga with the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, Barendra with the Rajshahi Division, and Mithila with Bihar. One of these divisions was assigned to each of the five orders of Brahmans and Kayasthas who were brought down by Raja Ballal Sen from Kanauj in Northern India, and who took their distinctive caste names from the names of these divisions. The district of Howrah is the southernmost part of Rarh, *i.e.*, the tract lying west of the Hooghly and south of the Ganges. Rarh is said to correspond with the area comprising the districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, Hooghly and Howrah. Rarh was subdivided into two parts—Northern Rarh and Southern Rarh—by the river Ajoy, which flows through the districts of Birbhum and Burdwan and meets the Hooghly. Howrah comes within the limits of the Dakhin-Rarh, from which the Kayasthas living in this part are called the Dakhin-Rarhi. The other districts of the Burdwan Commissionership, viz., Bankura and Midnapore, which partly adjoin the four districts mentioned above, are portions of Mallabhoom, *i.e.*, territories under the kings of the Malla Dynasty, and lie outside the pale of Rarh.

2. The northern portion of the district bordering on the Ganges was originally peopled by the higher order of the Hindu castes, viz., the Brahman and the Kayastha, and the southern parts by agricultural groups of Kaibartta, Sadgops, Barui and others. The proportion of semi-Hinduised aboriginal element, such as Bagdi and Kaora, is also large in the tracts lying east of the Rupnarain opposite Midnapore. The extensively wide range of castes, which are now found to live in the Sadar subdivision of Howrah, were not the original residents of the place. Recent immigration from several other districts of Bengal, Bihar, Chota Nagpur, the North-Western Provinces and other distant countries, has increased the caste number manifold. They have come to settle here for various employments, which new industries, mills and manufactories have given rise to within the Sadar subdivision of the district. The Muhammadan element preponderates in thanas Jagatballabhpur and North Ulubaria. A detailed description of caste is given under its proper head. The above gives an idea of the general distribution of population.

3. *Boundary and area.*—The boundary of the district is as follows:—On the north, the Bally *khal* and the southern limit of the Hooghly district, an artificial line running in a westerly direction from the mouth of the Bally *khal*, passing north of the village Bally on the Hooghly to the Damodar river; thence about eight miles up the river Damodar, and thence again west to the Rupnarain. On the west and south the district is bounded by the Rupnarain, and on the east by the Hooghly. It lies between 22° 13′ 15″ and 22° 47′ north latitude, and between 87° 47′ and 88° 24′ 15″ east longitude. The total area is 476 square miles, and though the smallest in area, the most thickly populated district in Bengal.

4. *Jurisdiction.*—Prior to 1819, Howrah with Hooghly formed a part of the Burdwan Collectorate. In 1819, the district of Hooghly with Howrah was formed to constitute a separate revenue jurisdiction. In 1841, the magisterial jurisdiction of Howrah, comprising *thanas* Rajapur (now called Jagatballabhpur), Amta, Kotra (now called Syampur), Bagnan and Ulubaria, was severed from Hooghly. The police circle of Dumjor was subsequently

* The report was drafted entirely under the supervision of Mr. Fiddian from whom Mr. Grierson took charge shortly before its submission.

added to this area. In 1864, the Howrah Municipality was constituted with an area of 11,005 acres. The *thana* boundaries have not been altered since 1872, except the western boundary of the Municipality, which was revised in 1879 under Government order No. 743 of the 10th September 1879, thus altering the eastern boundary of *thana* Dumjor. The Municipality of Howrah was subdivided into two parts, separating the villages Bally, Belur, and Barrackpore, which were made to constitute a separate Municipality in 1882-83. This is named the Bally Municipality, and it consists of an area of 2 square miles. In Revenue and Civil Jurisdictions, the district of Howrah is still subordinate to the district of Hooghly.

5. The following statement gives an idea as to the change of area of the *thanas* of this district since the census in 1872:—

Name.	Area in square miles.		
	1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4
Howrah Municipality ...	19	11	9
Bally „ ...			2
Dumjor	81	89	89
Jagatballabhpur... ...	73	73	73
Amta	103	103	103
Ulubaria	77	77	77
Bagnan	56	56	56
Syampur	67	67	67
Total ...	476	476	476

6. *Antiquities.—Other matters worth noticing in connection with the early history.*—The silting up of the Saraswati river, which once flowed through the heart of the Sadar subdivision of Howrah, was gradually completed in the 16th century. This historical river was the main channel of the Ganges, and the trading ships sailed up this channel to Satgaon near Hooghly, a port of great importance in the 14th century, at which place much of the royal custom duties were levied on exported and imported goods. The former existence of the river is now brought to men's mind by the *dahs* or chasms which were formed beyond the Saraswati embankment—the villages Makardah, Jhapardah, Bhandardaha, &c., which took their names after the *dahs*. In Makardah there were many factories of the Portuguese traders, who removed to Hooghly, then a small village on the navigable channel in 1537, when the Saraswati was fast drying up. This once famous river is now a shallow narrow creek, and meets the Hooghly near Sankrail. The influx of pilgrims from Ulubaria, Midnapore and other places in the south towards Howrah and Calcutta for bathing in the sacred water of the Ganges is owing to the fact that the present Hooghly river from Sankrail downwards is the old bed of the Saraswati. Another small instance of silting up of running water within the district of Howrah is the Kana Nadi in thana Jagatballabhpur. The large decrease of population in that *thana* within 1872 and 1881 was the result of this change. The channel of this old bed silted up at a much later period than the time when the Saraswati dried up.

7. There are two high towers at Mohiari and Bargachia, of about 165 feet in height. They are constructed of bricks in five successive stories, accessible by a long series of steps inside and the top being covered by flat roof. It is not definitely known when they were built and for what purpose. There is no inscription on the structure to enlighten us on the subject. Tradition has it that they were built in the early days of the British rule in Bengal, and served the purpose of telegraphic stations. Towers of the same size and description are still extant in the Jahanabad and Kalna subdivisions of the districts of

Hooghly and Burdwan, respectively, and in old days the flagmen posted on the top of each conveyed messages by flags from one station to another, the distance between two such towers being five miles. According to another version, the towers represent the survey pillars, but this version does not appear to be correct. There is no inscription on the walls of the towers, but it is certain that they were built by the English.

8. In the subdivision of Ulubaria the objects which associate our ideas with the old days are but few. The Damodar, which divides the subdivision into two parts, has changed its course in *thana* Amta. The old bed of the river is marked by the chasms at Dadkhali, Chota Moira, Baro Moira, Jaganathpur, Mansmari, Dhapa, and Milki, known as *dahas*. They are each about half a mile in length, and quarter of a mile in breadth. This old river was formerly accessible to sailing vessels. On its bank was situated the village Gobardhonepur, at a distance of a mile and-a-half from Bagnan, where there was a place called Jahajghatta, *i.e.*, anchoring stations for ships.

9. At a distance of about six miles from Amta lie the remains of the old fort of Raja Bharat Chandra Roy. It was constructed in the village Parua so as to have the Kana Nadi and an artificial ditch as boundaries of the fort. The ditch and a large tank still indicate the site. The only other objects of antiquity to which reference may be made are Fort Gloucester, not now traceable in village Bauria in thana Ulubaria, and Fort Mornington in village Makrapathar in *thana* Syampur.

10. It may be observed here that in very early days men settled in the *thanas* Dumjor and Jagatballabhpur (then called Rajapur), through which the ancient river Saraswati flowed. The eastern part of Amta, which lies close to the Said *thana* and contiguous to the district of Hooghly, also commanded some importance. The people who have settled within the municipal jurisdiction of Howrah have come to reside there at a much later date than the Muhammadan aimadars and low-caste Hindu traders of Jagatballabhpur, and the high-caste Hindus, viz., Brahmans and Kayesthas, in thana Dumjor, who predominate in villages Jhapardah, Makardah, Andul, Sankrail, &c. The density in the population in these quarters has considerably decreased, and it has very largely increased in the places now bordering the Ganges.

Head II.—Movement of the population.

11. *Increase and decrease of population since* 1872.—The comparative changes in the district population will appear from the following statement:—

Municipality or *thana*.	Both sexes.			Percentage of increase or decrease.		Remarks.
	1872.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Municipality, Howrah...	97,784	90,813	116,606	+8·02	+26·2	
„ Bally ...	...	14,815	16,700	...	...	
Thana Dumjor ...	119,037	128,477	147,749	+7·93	+15·0	
„ Jaggatballabhpur	80,243	77,539	85,241	—3·37	+9·9	
„ Ulubaria ...	69,906	81,345	87,696	+16·36	+7·8	
„ Amta ...	110,374	109,968	120,632	—·37	+9·7	
„ Bagnan ...	58,098	63,563	68,832	+9·41	+8·2	
„ Syampur ...	60,423	68,861	77,755	+13·96	+12·9	
Total ...	595,865	635,381	721,211	+6·63	+13·07	

It is evident from the statement that increase of population has occurred in all the *thanas* of this district within the last ten years. In both the censuses of 1872 and 1881 there was one municipality which has been split up into two independent municipalities since 1882-83. The increase within the municipal jurisdiction in the last census is threefold of what it was in the census of 1881. This large increase is owing to immigration from many parts of India to meet chiefly the increasing demand for labourers, artisans, and traders. More definite information as to the number of immigrants will be given later on. In *thana* Dumjor the increase in the last census is twofold of what it was in 1881. The crowded population of the municipal jurisdiction has spread over the adjoining villages of *thana* Dumjor to which the greater portion of the percentage of increase in that *thana* is limited. In *thana* Jagatballabhpur the result is conspicuous. The decrease of population in 1872 was ascribed to many deaths from fever on account of its extreme unhealthiness, and also the emigration of large numbers of shop-keepers, artisans, and *ferriwallas* to Calcutta. The increase of 9·9 per cent. of population in the present census has sufficient ground. The *thana* has much improved in its sanitation by draining stagnant water out of the *bils* between the Damodar and the Kana Nadi and of that between the Hooghly and the Saraswati by means of the Rajapur Canal. This scheme of irrigation has improved the condition of the land to such an extent that a *bigha* of it now fetches from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3, while it could hardly fetch annas 8 a few years ago. The reclamation of the soil is, however, the chief cause of this increase of population. It will be seen that in *thana* Ulubaria the increase was 16·3 in the census of 1881, whereas it is only 7·8 in the present census. The reason for this comparatively less increase is not far to seek. Ulubaria was the halting-place of travellers, pilgrims and traders from Midnapore and Orissa, and many other places in those parts to Calcutta and back. But, in consequence of the very great facility afforded by the steamer service, people do not now halt at Ulubaria. This has also caused a reduction of shops and diminution of trading people. In *thana* Amta there was a nominal diminution of population in the census of 1881, but at present the increase is not very inconsiderable. This increase is also owing to the reclamation of marshes and improvement of agriculture. Population in both the *thanas* of Bagnan and Syampur has increased, but the proportion of increase is a little less than it was in the census of 1881. In Bagnan, it is attributable to the fact of thinness of population in Mellock, Panitras and a few other riparian villages on the Rupnarain, which is encroaching upon the left bank and forming extensive *chars* on the right.

12. *Increase and decrease of population by sex since* 1872.—For an exposition of the increase of population by sex, I subjoin a statement and make the following observations. The male population in the town and in the more advanced *thana* predominates over the female, and the case is the converse in the other rural *thanas* of the district. The variations in the excess of females over males in the rural *thanas* are not readily explained.

Name of Thana and Municipality.	Male.			Female.			Percentage variation.		Percentage variation.	
							Male.		Female.	
	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872.	1881.	1891.	1872 to 1881.	1881 to 1891.	1872 to 1881.	1881 to 1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Howrah Municipality including Bally Municipality.	54,098	60,989	79,092	43,086	41,630	53,314	12·74	32 12	2·18	19·43
Dumjor	50,452	65,594	75,870	59,585	62,883	71,871	10·33	15·66	5·53	14·30
Jagatballabhpur ..	37,564	36,020	40,107	42,079	41,519	45,044	—4·11	11·7	—2·72	8·49
Ulubaria	34,031	40,380	43,313	35,875	40,965	44,383	18·06	0·77	14·19	8·34
Amta	50,814	49,741	55,149	59,560	60,227	65,483	—2·11	10·89	1 12	8·72
Bagnan	27,411	30,305	32,754	30,687	33,258	36,078	10·56	8·08	8 38	8·48
Syampur	29,388	33,450	37,615	31,035	35,411	40,140	13·82	12·45	14·10	13·35
	292,758	316,479	364,890	303,107	318,902	356,321	8·10	...	5·21	...

13. *Growth of towns.*—There are only two towns in the district—Howrah and Bally—both of which are steadily growing. The statement below explains the nature of improvement observable in them:—

Changes of population within municipal jurisdiction.

Religion.	1872.	1881.	1891.		Remarks.
	Howrah including Bally.	Howrah including Bally.	Howrah.	Bally.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Hindus	79,335	81,547	86,219	14,945	
Musulmans	16,611	21,825	28,366	1,663	
Christians	1,484	1,928	1,867	39	
Buddhists	354	328	29	.....	
Brahmos			28	1	
Jains			7	4	
Jews			10	.....	
Parsis			.....	5	
Sonthal and other non-Hindu aboriginal tribes.			56	43	
Total ...	97,784	105,628	116,606	16,700	

In the census of 1872 and 1881, religions within municipal jurisdiction were classified as Hindu, Muhammadan, Christian and other religions, but in the present census, people of all religions have been distinguished. It will appear that, while the Hindus and Muhammadans have gradually increased, the Christians within municipal limits have decreased by 85, and the total of other religions has decreased by 145. The population of Howrah and Bally in 1881 was 90,813 and 14,815, respectively. The figures of the present census are 116,606 in Howrah and 16,700 in Bally. The number of villages in the district which have a population between 3,000 and 5,000 is only 7, between 2,000 and 3,000 is 16, between 1,000 and 2,000 is 101, between 500 and 1,000 is 250, between 200 and 500 is 488, and below 200 the number is 471. The total number of villages is 1,335, and the population as distributed into them is classified in the annexed statement:—

Comparative population in the villages in the district of Howrah.

	Number of villages with population from—						
	1 to 200.	200 to 500.	500 to 1,000.	1,000 to 2,000.	2,000 to 3,000.	3,000 to 5,000.	5,000 and over.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bally	...	..	...	...	...	...	1
Dumjor	36	70	47	36	9	4	...
Jagatballabhpur ...	80	75	35	18	2	...	...
Ulubaria	84	86	38	11	4	...	...
Amta	48	85	56	26	1	3	...
Bagnan	84	55	41	10	...	...	...
Syampur	169	117	33	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	501*	488	250	101	16	7	2

It may be noticed here that in the last census of 1881 the total number of villages was shown as 1,486, owing to a part of a village having been taken as a distinct unit.

* The number shown in the Bengal Census Report is 471.

14. *Urban and rural population.*—In this district a considerable proportion of the rural population is also semi-urban, and contributes largely to the artisan class. The urban population take to trade and service only for their mode of living. It is also a noteworthy fact that the rural population seldom migrate to any other district for employment or settlement, the small migration that is observable here in this respect being mostly confined to the urban population. In their customs, the difference of marriageable age observed is remarkable. The rural population always marry their females at a much earlier age than the people of the town. Among the Pod, Bagdi, and other low-caste Hindus, females are generally married between 5 and 9 years of age.

15. *Immigration.*—By an examination of Register No. IX it is found that immigration to this district is chiefly confined to the municipalities and Dumjor from distant places and other provinces and countries. The subjoined statement shows the large number of immigrants who come from Bihar.

The number of immigrants.

	Howrah.		Bally.		Dumjor.		Jagatballabh-pur.		Ulubaria.		Amta.		Bagnan.		Sampur.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Natives of the district ...	22,178	18,866	4,874	4,418	67,925	67,790	39,414	44,231	40,640	43,084	58,788	62,005	31,720	34,851	36,270	38,918
Burdwan Commissionership	10,307	14,763	1,588	1,518	4,120	2,800	374	579	1,025	502	1,112	3,323	722	1,082	810	606
Presidency ditto ...	2,601	2,298	426	612	478	787	54	85	529	655	49	73	58	95	295	578
Calcutta	524	735	39	40	43	54	7	6	14	...	5	2	...	3	..	1
Rajshahi Commissionership	39	64	40	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	7	...	2	...	...	..
Dacca ditto ...	713	173	51	12	42	9	3	61	57	9	6	1	16	2	4	...
Chittagong ditto ...	52	16	5	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Patna ditto ...	10,267	3,310	802	173	747	6	103	4	331	116	51	17	35	1	30	1
Bhagalpur ditto ...	1,428	423	151	19	63	2	11	...	17	...	9	3	8	...	7	...
Orissa ditto ...	2,240	189	165	8	785	14	115	...	459	13	67	49	42	11	28	...
Chota Nagpur ditto ...	209	103	317	86	1,115	70	31	40	2	...	4	...	1	1	..	1
North-Western Provinces ...	13,028	4,293	748	216	304	174	44	13	232	3	32	8	84	27	139	32
Oudh	805	171	137	35	42	12	8	4	6	...	14	...	43	...	13	...
The Panjab	108	413	16	8	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	2	...
Bombay	16	23	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1	...
Kuch Bihar	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajputana	127	80	74	13	...	8	2	1	...	1	2	...	1	2	7	3
Central Provinces	287	76	28	4	184	30	28	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Deccan	4	7	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras	23	6	1	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	...
Burma	15	2	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assam	175	16	4	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Manipur	21	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nepal	5	4	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cashmere	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cabul	12	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	6	...	5	...
Arabia	5	...	24	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	. .	...
China	15	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Caucasus	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Mauritius	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ceylon	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bagdad	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ireland	14	7	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scotland	72	21	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
English Channel	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
England	113	57	5	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
France	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Germany...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Belgium	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Italy	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poland	1	2	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Amsterdam	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Portugal	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hamburg	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malta	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heligoland	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trinidad	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Africa	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
America	3	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Baltic Sea	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New York	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
On sea	23	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Moran Pass	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Petersburg	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	70,477	46,129	9,515	7185	75,870	71,879	40,197	45,044	43,315	44,383	55,149	65,483	32,754	36,078	37,615	40,140

This large number has been brought in by the increasing demand for labourers and servants of all kinds. Immigrants from the North-Western Provinces are also numerous, and for the same reason. The European immigrants are only found within the municipalities. Immigrants from Arabia and other distant countries come chiefly for trading purposes.

15*a*. A comparative list of immigrants to this district is given in the margin in the statements below, from which it will be seen that in the course of the last ten years the number has much increased. Figures under this head in the census returns of 1872 were included with those of the district of Hooghly. Therefore any attempt to compare the decrease and increase of immigrants of that time with the figures of 1881 and 1891 will be misleading. In comparing the figures of the annexed statement, showing the number of immigrants of 1881 and 1891, the following points are to be specially noticed. The number of immigrants from the central and eastern districts of Bengal to Howrah has considerably decreased, but those from Bihar have largely increased. The districts of Bihar and Chota

Nagpur send a large number of the labouring class, and it will be interesting to note down the population that has come from each of the districts of the Province—

Birthplaces of population of Howrah.

Names of places.	1881.		1891.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5
Native	230,774	260,050	296,819	314,180
Burdwan Commissionership	36,452	35,087	26,058	25,238
Presidency ditto ...	5,242	5,619	4,490	5,183
Calcutta	1,027	1,190	653	850
Rajshahi Commissionership	57	59	80	68
Dacca ditto ...	1,018	285	892	287
Chittagong ditto ...	178	45	62	10
Patna ditto ...	6,038	2,452	12,308	3,683
Bhagalpur ditto ...	865	358	1,694	447
Orissa ditto ...	1,990	301	3,890	284
Chota Nagpur ditto ...	602	244	1,679	301
Unspecified	81	43	...	...
Other provinces within Indian Empire.	10,904	4,001	15,847	5,056
In Asia, out of Indian Empire.	57	12	82	19
Europe	208	94	252	97
America	10	3	5	...
Australasia	1	...	...	...
Indefinite	6	...	...	...
Africa	...	...	7	7
On sea	...	...	24	...
Total ...	316,479	318,902	364,890	356,321

Name.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1	2	3	4
Shahabad	3,031	1,171	4,202
Saran	3,316	844	4,160
Patna	2,537	865	3,402
Gaya	1,546	446	1,992
Muzaffarpur	1,506	296	1,802
Monghyr	1,386	327	1,713
Champaran	235	61	296
Darbhanga	197	...	197
Sonthal Parganas	114	81	195
Bhagalpur	134	36	170
Purnea	54	3	57
Malda	6	...	6

So it appears that the poor people of the district, where means of employment is limited and the railway communication affords facility in travelling, have freely left their native district for Howrah.

Head III.—Varying density of population.

16. The changes in respect of density of population in the *thanas* and municipalities of the district since 1872 are shown in the statement in the margin. It appears from the statement that density per square mile is steadily increasing since 1872. The areas of all the thanas except Dumjor having remained unchanged since 1872, the comparison of figures can be very easily made as to the density of population in each *thana*, and it is found that in Ulubaria, Bagnan and Syampur, the density has grown steadily since 1872, and in Jagatballabhpur and Ampta there appears to have been a decrease in density in 1881. The density of the last-named *thanas* has, however, risen high in the present census. In consequence of the changes in the jurisdiction of the municipality, a comparison of the density of population cannot be fairly made from the figures shown in the statement. It appears

Density of population.

Name of thana or municipality.	1872.		1881.		1891.	
	Area in square miles.	Population per square mile.	Area in square miles.	Population per square mile.	Area in square miles.	Population per square mile.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Thana Dumjor	61	1,464	60	1,444	60	1,060
Do. Jagatballabhpur	73	1,099	73	1,062	73	1,167
Do. Amta	103	1,071	103	1,068	103	1,171
Do. Ulubaria	77	908	77	1,056	77	1,138
Do. Bagnan	56	1,037	56	1,135	56	1,228
Do. Syampur	67	902	67	1,028	67	1,162
Municipality { Howrah	19	5,146	11	9,603	9	12,956
Municipality { Bally					2	8,350
District Howrah	476	1,252·6	476	1,334·83	476	1,518

from the census report of 1872 that in Howrah the density of village population was exceeded by no other district in Bengal, and in that of town population it stood second only to Calcutta and the suburbs of Calcutta.

Causes of the rise of density.

17. (*a*) *Influence of soil.*—In addition to the natural order of increase of human beings, the larger area of land brought under cultivation by the new system of drainage and introduction of new industries within the municipalities are the only two circumstances which may be cited for the comparatively increasing density in the Jagatballabhpur, Amta and Dumjor *thanas* respectively. The recent improvement of soil of the tract traversed by the Rajapur canal enables the cultivators to sow linseed and to grow potatoes, on which the poor people subsist entirely during the months of *Bhadro* and *Aswin*, *i.e.*, just before the winter (*haimanti*) crop is harvested. The annexed list of villages through which the canal passes, with the population of 1881 and 1891, will make clear the advantages rendered by the drainage scheme :—

Change of population in the villages affected by Howrah drainage scheme.

Villages.	Population.	
	1881.	1891.
Uttar Baxara	967	1,172
Dakhin do.	476	584
Betri	195	285
Chandbati	68	189
Thana Makua	814	968
Podra	634	1,223
Diulah	1,819	2,024
Piula	490	521
Santragachi	1,554	1,640
Baltikri	1,014	1,421
Bankra	1,338	1,827
Shalop	501	689
Katlia	1,148	1,348
Nibrah	954	1,128
Unshuni	1,744	1,980
Dharsa	551	639
Pakuria	313	433
Koolidanga	32	290
Kristarampur	213	296
Makordah	1,792	1,915
Pairatungi	588	677
Bamungachi	923	1,018
Uttar Bantra	174	246
Debiparah	463	596
Tetulkuli	374	455
Konah	1,073	1,412
Khalia	461	578
Lalooah	1,797	2,081
Chamrail	1,161	1,430
Jagadishpur	1,669	2,049
Bally	1,811	2,151
Lakhanpur	665	892
Dumjor	3,601	4,349
Bhandardaha	978	1,123
Prosasta	692	756
Beradingi	149	255
Jotgiri	542	645

(*b*) *New industries.*—The cotton mills in Goosery, jute mills and ropery in Ramkristopur and Sibpur and other places of industries, such as the docks and railway offices, brick-fields and timber yards, attract a large number of people to those villages of *thana* Dumjor which adjoin the municipalities. This fact goes to show the reason of the increasing density of population in that *thana* in spite of the declining state of certain native industries, such as jute-spinning, oil-making, manufacture of cocoanut shells, &c. The municipality is also the suburban residence of many European and native gentlemen who have business in Calcutta. A comparatively large number of people of the lower class who work in Calcutta take up lodgings in Howrah. No decay of the native industries can affect the density of population of the district, as new industries are springing up and affording ready employment to many.

18. *Summary.*—In making a summary of the density of the population throughout the district, it is necessary to point out that this district has an average density of 1,515·15 persons to the square mile, which was not attained by any other district in Bengal including the 24-Parganas. The most populous part is a narrow strip stretching from Howrah along the bank of the Ganges, making up one long suburb of Sibpur, Howrah, Ghoosery, and Bally, the density of population in which varies from 8,000 to 12,000 per square mile. The second populous strip is along the bank of the Saraswati and Kunti khal. The principal villages on it are Baluti, Dumjor, Jhapardah, Makardah, Mohiari and Andul. Below Andul the Saraswati joins the Hooghly, and the populous strip continues thence along the bank of the combined river. The population per square mile of this tract varies from 1,000 to 3,000.

The other portions of the district are not so thickly populated as these, but nowhere in the rural *thanas* of the Sadar subdivision as well as in the Ulubaria subdivision, is the average less than 1,100 per square mile.

The other two parts in which population in this district is denser than the remaining parts are the banks of the Damadar from Amta down to Odang and adjoining villages, and the eastern bank of Rupnarain from Baxi down to Mellock, Panitras and other villages. These parts are in thanas Ampta and Bagnan. Population in the southern part of *thana* Syampur is comparatively thinner, but the density is increasing on a more rapid scale than in other *thanas*, for in 1872 density in this *thana* was 902 per square mile, in 1881 it was 1,014, and in 1891 it has risen to 1,149. The rapid rise is accounted for by the comparatively healthy climate of the *thana* and the good crops reaped by the cultivators nearly every year. Although the land is somewhat low, the cultivators derive the full advantage of rains, and they do not suffer from floods.

Head IV.—Religion.

19. *Distribution of population according to religion.*—The statement in the margin shows the increase and decrease in the population of the district according to religion since 1872. It appears from this statement that there has been no unusual increase or decrease in any particular creed excepting in Brahmos. The number of Brahmos has increased from 6 to 80—a relatively large increase, but not important in regard to the actual total.

Distribution of population according to religion.

Religion.	1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4
Hindu	476,568	500,870	565,973
Muhammadan	117,313	132,118	152,806
Christian	1,593	2,051	2,072
Buddhist	...	37	35
Jain	...	3	12
Brahmo	391	6	80
Jew	...	13	10
Parsi	...	1	5
Sonthal	...	282	194
Unspecified	...	...	24
Total ...	595,865	635,381	721,211

20. There is no remarkable Hindu shrine in this district to which pilgrims resort excepting the bank of the Ganges (Bhagirathi) itself and the *Malai Chundi* in Amta. The latter of these, according to the Hindu mythology, is as sacred as the shrine of *Kalighat*, but less numerously attended. The former attracts thousands of men during the Hindu festivals of sacred baths. The sacredness of the Ganges water does not retain below the mouth of the *khal* in Rajganj, as the ancient Saraswati poured its water in the Ganges at that point, and spoiled its sacred character in the eyes of the Hindu. The sacredness of the water being thus confined down to that point, the people of the southern part of the district and of other districts adjacent to them flock to Calcutta and Howrah on all occasions of sacred baths.

21. *Proselytism.*—As for proselytism there has been but little. The annexed statement of Christian population shows the number of different classes of Christians living within the district. As the number of each class of Christians is not available here from the census reports of 1872 and 1881, a detailed comparison of figures cannot be made. All that may be discussed on this subject is that the Christian population of the district increased from 1,593 to 2,051 within 1872 and 1881, but the increase of the number within 1881 and 1891 is only nominal, *i.e.*, from 2,051 to 2,072. This falling off may be due partly to a smaller influx of Europeans and partly to the increase in the Brahmos or reformed sect of Hindus.

22. The subjoined statement shows the distribution of population by sex as ascertained in the census of 1891:—

Detailed statement of population of the District, thana by thana, according to religion.

Names of Thanas.	Hindu.		Muhammadan.		Christian.		Brahmo.		Buddhist.		Sonthal.		Jain.		Jew.		Zoroastrian.		Lutheran.		Unspecified.		Total.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Dumjor	60,977	57,319	14,723	14,497	84	49	2	2	...	...	83	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75,870	71,879
Jagatballabhpur ...	31,046	33,260	9,149	11,784	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,197	45,044
Amta	47,037	54,008	8,094	11,460	...	...	18	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55,149	65,483
Syampur	32,162	34,273	5,452	5,867	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,615	40,140
Bagnan	26,322	28,685	6,428	7,387	2	1	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,754	36,078
Ulubaria	30,029	29,691	13,253	14,683	22	8	3	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43,313	44,383
Bally Municipality ...	8,368	6,577	1,086	577	27	12	1	...	...	...	28	15	2	2	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	9,515	7,185
Howrah ditto ...	51,422	34,797	17,969	10,397	974	893	15	13	27	2	50	6	7	...	3	7	...	...	1	...	10	14	70,477	46,129
Total ...	287,363	278,610	76,154	76,652	1,109	963	44	36	33	2	161	33	10	2	3	7	3	2	1	...	10	14	364,890	356,321

It will be observed from this statement that not a single person returned himself as an atheist. It is not known whether the persons whose religion was entered as "unspecified" belong to the atheistic or agnostic sect—

23. *Predominance of particular religion or sect.*—A complete statement showing the number of each sex of each religious creed in the thanas and municipalities of this district as returned in the last census is given in the preceding paragraph. It will appear from it that the number of religious creeds in the Howrah Municipality is largest, *i.e.*, 10, and in Bally 7, in Dumjor 6, in Ulubaria 5, and in Bagnan 4, and in the remaining thanas the number is 3, but the number of Hindus is the largest in all thanas, while Mussalmans come next. There is a considerable number of Christians in the municipalities. The people of other religious denominations is trifling.

24. The proportion in which the Hindus and Muhammadans prevail in the different parts of the district is interesting to note, and the figures are given in the statement in the margin. From the figures it appears that the percentage of Hindus and Muhammadans are inversely proportional. The largest percentage of Hindus is in Bally, where the percentage of Muhammadans is the lowest, and the largest percentage of Muhammadans is in Ulubaria, where the percentage of the Hindus is the lowest. There are certain villages of mostly Muhammadan population in thanas Jagatballabhpur and Ulubaria. The Hindus of Amta, Bagnan, and Syampur are mostly of Bisnavite faith. The number of Saivaite Hindus is comparativaly small in this district.

Thana.	Percentage of Hindus.	Percentage of Muhammadans.
1	2	3
Howrah Municipality ...	72·7	18·1
Bally ditto ...	87·5	6·2
Dumjor	78·7	14·4
Jagatballabhpur	74·9	23·5
Ulubaria	62·5	25·0
Amta	83·3	15·8
Bagnan	83·3	19·0
Syampur	85·7	14·2

Head V.—Infirmities.

25. The distribution of infirmities in relation to parts of the district is shown in the statement given in the margin. As the figures for each *thana* at former censuses are not available, no comparison can be made. The preponderance of deaf mutes suggests a question whether deaf persons who are not mutes have been included, as I was not aware that deaf mutes were as common as blind persons. A comparison of the number of infirm men for the whole district has been made in the statement below. It contains the figures of the censuses of 1872, 1881 and 1891 according to religion. The figures shown under heading 1872 are calculated on the number of square miles of which the district consists, for in that census the infirmities of Hooghly and Howrah were taken together, and so there is no other reasonable method by which the figures of each district can be ascertained. The variations in the figures of the three censuses do not readily admit of explanation. The figures for 1872 seem unduly small, and again it is not clear why the number of blind persons should have decreased so much between 1881 and 1891.

Infirmities in 1891.

Thana or Municipality.	Insane.		Deaf and Mute.		Blind.		Leper.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Howrah Municipality ...	25	17	40	44	40	53	16	13
Bally ditto ..	10	5	8	2	9	5	2	1
Dumjor thana ...	44	18	93	44	58	38	28	9
Jagatballabhpur thana ...	17	5	46	32	36	27	25	2
Ulubaria	24	13	48	20	30	22	23	3
Amta	45	16	77	43	53	33	34	10
Bagnan	19	12	35	26	17	11	27	4
Syampur	15	13	44	30	14	21	16	10
Total ...	199	99	391	241	257	210	171	51

Comparative statement of infirm population since 1872.

Infirmities.	1872.		1881.		1891.		Religion.	1872.		1881.		1891.		Infirmities.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Blind	245	125	293 88 1	285 97 ...	237	210	Hindu ... ... Musalman ... Christian... ...	262	87	214 47 1	83 15 ...	171	51	Leper.
Deaf and mute ...	134	56	327 89 1	230 56 ...	391	241	Hindu ... ... Musalman ... Christian... ...	100	30	167 31 ...	96 19 ...	199	90	Insane.

26. Insanity was understood in the sense of such deviation from that standard of mental soundness which is commonly recognized (though difficult of definition) in which the person, the property, and civil rights may be interfered with. These deviations are briefly where the incapacity or violence or irregularities of the individual are such as to threaten danger to himself or others, or to unfit him for his ordinary business and duties. The word insanity was

understood in this sense by the enumerators, and probably included idiocy, imbecility, dimentia, or mania. It may be noted here that persons occasionally subjected to such derangements were not censused as *insane*.

Although the term leprosy is very vaguely used by medical and other writers, the word is generally accepted to mean *Lepra tuburculosa* which is met with in warm climates. The enumerators understood the term in this sense and censused accordingly. The decreased number of lepers according to the present census is probably due to the more strict interpretation.

27. The popular belief on the subject of leprosy is closely connected with the use of unwholesome meat, fish and excessive use of meat. The members of the caste who are mostly liable to suffer from the disease are the Muhammadans and the Jelia section of the Kaibarttas. The disease is found only in a very minute proportion among the higher castes of the Hindus. It is found that among males 33 per cent. of lepers are Mussulmans, 28 per cent. Kaibarttas, 11 per cent. Bagdis, 6 per cent. Barui, 6 per cent. Goala, and the remaining 16 per cent. among other low castes. Amongst the females, the percentage of lepers stands thus—

Mussulman	...	...	...	24 per cent.
Kaibartta	...	...	...	27 ,,
Bagdi	...	...	...	15 ,,
Goala	...	...	...	6 ,,
Baisnab	...	...	...	6 ,,
Others	...	...	...	22 ,,

The prevalence of the disease among the Mussulmans and Kaibarttas is borne out by the statement below. Infirmities by age-periods are also shown in that statement. The figures of 1871 and 1891 under each age-period have been set side by side, and they speak for themselves.

Infirmities by age.

	Year.	Under 5	5 to 9.	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and over.	Unspecified.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Insane	1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100—30
	1881	4—2	8—3	14—2	15—5	41—22	51—24	34—18	16—12	15—26	0—1	198—115
	1891	1—0	3—1	11—5	20—8	40—20	58—23	32—14	24—12	10—16	...	199—99
Blind	1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	245—125
	1881	11—14	16—13	13—7	14—5	45—10	42—10	35—28	36—30	108—218	...	382—382
	1891	10—9	14—6	16—13	7—7	25—16	24—12	28—21	40—30	94—89	...	257—210
Deaf and mute	1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	134—56
	1881	13—9	46—30	51—20	28—21	64—51	57—41	55—29	43—26	59—59	1—0	417—286
	1891	12—14	63—28	54—21	34—16	67—30	57—33	44—26	27—21	33—41	...	391—241
Leper	1872	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	202—37
	1881	3—1	2—1	5—2	12—3	34—13	44—17	63—18	40—19	57—24	...	202—96
	1891	1—0	0—0	1—1	4—0	12—8	30—13	47—11	30—11	36—12	...	171—51

Head VI.—Education.

28. The accompanying statement gives in detail the education figures of 1881 and 1891. In the censuses of both these years, the people who were under instruction have been enumerated in such a way that they might be separated from those who were literate. No such attempt was, however, made in the census of 1872. Separate statistics of education for the town of Howrah only were returned in that census.

Comparative list of education by Religion—1881 *and* 1891.

Religion.	1881.						1891.					
	Male.			Female.			Male.			Female.		
	Learning.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Learning.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Learning.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Learning.	Literate.	Illiterate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Hindus	19,805	39,444	190,440	333	631	250,217	22,401	55,546	209,354	481	1,576	276,553
Muhammadans	2,702	5,744	56,850	49	73	66,640	2,903	9,005	64,156	52	134	70,466
Christians	202	615	307	132	370	365	129	766	214	97	602	264
Buddhists	...	9	19	...	...	9	...	30	3	...	...	2
Brahmos	1	3	...	...	...	3	5	28	11	8	9	19
Jains	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	8	2	...	...	2
Jews	1	3	...	...	5	4	...	3	...	...	7	...
Parsis or Zoroastrians ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
All others	...	1	211	...	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sonthals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	160	...	...	33
Lutherans	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
Unspecified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	...	...	14
Total ...	22,771	45,821	247,887	514	1,080	317,430	25,588	65,393	273,907	638	2,328	353,355

29. The education figures for the town of Howrah in 1872 were as follow:—

	Male.	Female.
Hindus	9,987	285
Mussulmans ...	816	63
Christians ...	572	484
Buddhists ...	1	0
Others	11	5

The general compilation sheets of educational statistics in the censuses of 1881 and 1891 do not provide figures of the district, *thana* by *thana*.

30. *Percentage calculation of Education statistics.*—It appears from the following statement that the number of persons learning and literate in the three chief religions, viz., Hindu, Mussalman, and Christian, has increased over the figures as ascertained in 1881. The increase of the learning and literate is also observable in the percentage calculations as given below:—

Religion.	1881.				1891.			
	Percentage of Learning.		Percentage of Literate.		Percentage of Learning.		Percentage of Literate.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Hindu	7·93	·13	15·9	·25	7·81	·17	19·33	·58
Muhammadan	4·22	·07	8·78	10	3·93	·06	11·89	·17
Christian	17·06	15·22	51·93	42·67	10·07	1·07	68·28	62·51

Taking the percentage of men learning and literate together, the statement shows conclusively that in all these cases, the progress of education is satisfactory.

31. *Increase of Education.*—Both English and vernacular education is making rapid progress in this district. Diffusion of education is not confined to any particular sect or creed, but extends to all classes of men alike. The spread of education in the *thanas* of Ulubaria subdivision is much less than in the Sadar subdivision. The reason for this is that in the Sadar subdivision the classes who benefit by education, and, therefore, appreciate it are more numerous and have been longer established in this district. As the Sadar subdivision abounds with persons employed in Calcutta, education is pushed on with much keenness. There are English as well as vernacular schools in many of the big villages of the Sadar subdivision. The total number of high schools in the Sadar subdivision teaching up to the Entrance standard is 12. In the subdivision of Ulubaria there are three Entrance class schools in *thana* Amta, 2 in Bagnan, and 1 in Ulubaria. The Howrah Zilla School has been placed in the hands of the local Municipality since 1887.

The statement in the margin shows the number of pupils of each class within this district, classified according to religion. The figures as returned in the last three censuses of 1872, 1881, and 1891 have been shown. *Thana* Syampur is comparatively backward in education, and the number of schools is much fewer in that *thana* than elsewhere. This is owing to the fact of its being inhabited by the lower class of Hindus, chiefly Kaibarttas, by whom the advantage of education is being very slowly appreciated, and the people are mostly of the agricultural class.

Religion.	1872.		1881.		1891.		Religion.
	Male (literate).	Female (literate).	Male (literate).	Female (literate).	Male (literate).	Female (literate).	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Hindu	9,987	285	30,444	631	55,546	1,576	Hindu.
Mussulman ...	816	63	5,744	73	9,005	134	Mussulman.
Buddhist ...	1	...	9	...	30	...	Buddhist.
Christian ...	572	484	615	370	766	602	Christian.
Others	11	5	1	...	...	...	Others.
Brahmo ...	...	...	2	...	28	9	Brahmo.
Jain	...	...	2	1	8	...	Jain.
Jew	...	...	3	5	3	7	Jew.
Parsi	...	...	1	...	3	...	Parsee.
Sonthal	...	...	...	...	1	...	Sonthal.
Unspecified ...	...	...	...	...	3	...	Unspecified.
Total ...	11,387	837	46,821	1,080	65,395	2,328	

32. The subjoined statement shows the comparative statistics of schools since 1881—

Year.	High schools.	Middle schools.	Primary schools.	Other schools.
1	2	3	4	5
1881 ...	10	42	408	2 Technical schools.
1882 ...	10	43	456	
1883 ...	9	42	573	
1884 ...	10	40	700	
1885 ...	11	40	685	
1886 ...	15	32	738	
1887 ...	15	35	804	2 *Guru*-training schools.
1888 ...	16	35	750	1 *Guru*-training school.
1889 ...	17	37	726	
1890 ...	18	37	664	
1891 ...	18	38	735	2 *Guru*-training schools.

Apart from these schools, there are some schools for advanced teaching of classical languages, and a few for teaching the Koran only. In the year 1890-91, of these schools only 18 taught Sanskrit, and 5 the Koran; two technical schools were started in the year 1881 with 91 pupils, but they were not in existence in the following year, and no school of that character has sprung up again. It will be further evident from the above statement that the number of high schools has steadily increased within the last ten years from 10 to 18, and the middle schools have decreased from 42 to 38. There has been a considerable fluctuation in the number of primary schools, although the number in the year 1891 stands next to the highest number of such schools in existence in 1887 and 1888. These schools are under the different heads of control, viz., Municipal, District Board, and private enterprise, a large majority of them being supported and aided by the District Board. The figures of schools in 1872 and the following years could not be shown, as in the reports available the schools were shown together with those in the district of Hooghly.

33. *Education by Religion and Age.*—Education by caste is not available from the Census Reports of 1872 and 1881. Education figures of the census of 1891 by age and religion are given in the statement below:—

Males.

Religion.	All ages.				0—14 Years.				15—24 Years.				25 Years and over.			
	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Hindu	287,363	22,461	55,548	209,354	109,559	20,035	3,541	85,983	48,005	2,309	14,415	31,281	129,799	117	37,592	92,090
Mussalman	76,154	2,993	9,005	64,156	32,752	2,788	735	29,229	11,285	193	2,014	9,078	32,117	12	6,256	25,849
Christian	1,108	129	766	214	322	110	79	133	206	16	174	16	581	3	513	64
Buddhist	33	...	30	3	1	...	...	1	3	...	2	1	29	...	28	1
Jain	10	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	7	...	5	2
Brahmo	44	5	28	11	11	3	...	8	6	1	5	..	27	1	23	3
Sonthal	161	...	1	160	11	...	1	10	13	...	...	13	137	...	...	137
Jew	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...
Lutheran	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Zoroastrian	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...
Unspecified	10	...	3	7	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	8	...	3	5
Total ...	364,890	25,588	65,395	273, 07	142,658	22,936	4,356	115,366	59,523	2,519	16,615	40,389	162,709	133	44,424	118,152

Females.

Hindu	278,610	481	1,576	276,553	101,860	469	355	101,054	50,009	7	586	49,416	126,741	12	635	126,094
Mussalman	76,652	52	134	76,466	30,119	45	21	30,053	13,978	1	51	13,926	32,555	6	62	32,487
Christian	963	97	602	264	313	85	90	138	213	11	173	29	437	1	339	97
Buddhist	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
Jain	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Brahmo	36	8	9	19	18	7	1	10	8	1	5	2	10	...	3	7
Sonthal	33	...	...	33	11	...	...	...	4	...	...	4	18	...	...	18
Jew	7	...	7	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	5	...	5	...
Lutheran	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Zoroastrian	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
Unspecified	14	...	...	14	9	...	...	9	1	...	...	1	4	...	...	4
Total ...	356,321	638	2,328	353,355	132,331	599	468	131,264	64,216	20	816	63,380	159,774	19	1,044	158,711

In the previous two censuses, education was ascertained only by noting the number of persons who could read and write. A very important column was added to Abstraction Sheet No. X to count the persons who possess a knowledge of English. So the figures in the Tabulation Register No. XIX of the present census are more explicit than those which

we have in the Census report of 1872 and 1881 under the head of Educated men. The total number of persons who know English are the following:—

Howrah Municipality	... 5,414	Bagnan	... 287
Bally ditto	... 883	Syampur	... 115
Dumjor	... 760		
Jagatbullabhpur	... 278		
Ulubaria	... 215	Total	... 8,407
Amta	... 455		

It must be noticed here that although female education is now making some progress in this district, such education is still confined to the primary class. There is no school in Howrah which teaches the females to the middle or high standard. But in the year 1890-91 there were 14 primary schools consisting of 681 girls, and 22 lower primary schools teaching 488 girls. The number of school-going girls since 1881 to the present year are shown below:—

Year.	No. of school.	Number of girls going to school.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4
1881 ...	6	259	In 1882 and 1883 there were no schools teaching girls. All these schools shown in column 2 belong to the primary standard.
1884 ...	34	1,094	
1885 ...	57	1,525	
1886 ...	40	1,223	
1887 ...	45	1,285	
1888 ...	41	1,195	
1889 ...	45	1,132	
1890 ...	33	1,043	
1891 ...	36	1,169	

Head VII.—Language.

34. *Languages of the population of Howrah.*—The figures showing languages spoken in the district are obtained from Register No. VIII, and are set forth in the statement below:—

Name of language.	1872.	1881.	1891.	Name of language.	1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Bengali ...		603,950	664,687	Scotch ...		19	30
Hindi ...		27,425	45,528	Singalese ...		1	...
Uriya ...		2,129	3,979	Sonthali ...		53	620
English ...		1,406	1,257	Spanish ...		3	...
Armenian ...		15	11	Tamil ...		4	18
Assamese ...		1	4	Telegu ...		3	49
Chinese ...		19	35	Unspecified ...		71	...
Dhangari ...		204	641	Nagri ...		...	1,703
Dutch ...		14	...	Arabic ...		...	342
French ...		18	83	Madrassi ...		...	18
German ...		9	8	Urdu ...		...	1,884
Guzrati ...		2	9	Kabuli ...		...	5
Hebrew ...		8	12	Nagpuri ...		...	87
Hungarian ...		1	...	Uraon ...		...	175
Italian ...		7	...	Bolati ...		...	4
Nepali ...		11	5	Burmese ...		...	20
Pashtu ...		3	16	Mori ...		...	15
Portuguese ...		2	2				
Punjabi ...		3	3				
				Grand Total ...		635,381	721,211

Although in area this district is the smallest of all in Bengal, the variety of spoken languages is many, in consequence of a large number of immigrants from various parts of the world. In the schedule book, language was entered in column 10, and it was meant to show in that column "the language ordinarily spoken in the parental home of each person." In the foregoing statement a distribution of language in this district is shown since 1881. The figures under the head of column 1872 could not be had from the Census report of that year. The language of the natives of the district is only Bengali, of which no dialectic difference is observable anywhere. The dialectic variations with reference to urban and rural population are not perceptible. As the district of Howrah is entirely within the limits of *Rarh*, and does not include any portion of the other indigenous division, the dialect of the

Note.—The figures shown in the Bengal Census Report for the Bengali, Hindi and Sonthali languages are 665,678, 48,115 and 1,267, respectively.

people does not at all vary. The indigenous dialect of this district is Bengali. The large number of languages given in the statement as a list of spoken languages in the district has nothing to do with the indigenous dialects. It should be noted, however, that in some cases the enumerators have returned Arabic as a spoken language. During the preliminary enumeration this point was noticed, and the enumerators told that there are certain Muhammadan families who spoke Arabic, though the spoken language differed in grammar and idiom from the dead Arabic language.

35. Another statement is annexed to this section to show the number of persons whose mother-tongue is different from the language of this district, but who live in the several *thanas* of the district. This statement will make clear the proportion of immigrants to each of the *thanas*:—

Language.	Howrah.	Bally.	Dumjor.	Jagat-bullabhpur.	Ulubaria.	Ampta.	Bagnan.	Syampur.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bengali	71,236	13,418	143,572	84,444	66,107	120,104	68,371	77,435
Hindi	38,250	2,715	1,735	626	1,084	436	394	288
Uriya	2,299	167	755	138	420	80	44	26
Dhangari	74	1	566	...	...	...	...	...
Sonthali	134	43	411	24	9	1	...	...
Nagri	967	148	539	6	21	9	10	3
Arabic	245	...	97	...	...	...	...	...
Madrassi	13	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
Telegu	43	...	1	...	...	...	4	...
English	1,188	17	7	....	12	...	3	...
Urdu	1,715	72	60	6	29	1	...	1
Poshtu	5	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
Cabuli	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2
Chinese	29	...	...	...	6	...	...	...
Scotch	28	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Nagpuri	22	65	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guzrati	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Punjabi	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Uraon	137	38	...	...	...	...	...	...
French	67	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hebrew	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bolati	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Burmese	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assamese	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
German	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nepali	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mori	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Portuguese ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Armenian	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unspecified ...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

It appears from the foregoing statement that in *thana* Syampur, excepting those who speak Bengali, there are men speaking five other languages, in Bagnan 6, in Amta 5, in Ulubaria 9, in Jagatballabhpur 5, in Dumjor 10, in the Bally Municipality 12, and in the Municipality of Howrah there are men speaking 28 different languages. From this it is clear enough that men come to this part of the district from various other distant places. The large number of Hindi speaking men are mostly from the poor classes of people of North-Western Provinces and Bihar.

Head VIII.—Castes.

36. Originally, caste was founded on race distinction, and it has been influenced by two other systems of division, viz., the employments of people and the localities in which they live. The inauguration of this latter system of classification was made in the middle of the 9th century by the famous Hindu Raja Ballal Sen from among the descendants of five Brahmans and five Kayasthas, who had been brought from Kanauj by his grandfather Adisura. Ballal Sen finally settled their rank and assigned the five parts of Bengal to each of the five castes of Brahmans and Kayasthas. While the caste system as based on race distinction seems at first a very simple arrangement of the people, it is in reality a very complex one, for it has been made to rest on occupations and localities. Caste, as a system of trade-guilds, has added largely to the multiplicity of its numbers. As a matter of practice, men of every caste of the present day change their occupation, and the lower ones sometimes raise themselves in social scale, but intercourse with the other caste section continues to be an impossibility.

37. In area, Howrah being the smallest district in Bengal, and in physical aspect, it being a plain throughout, bounded on the west and east by two rivers, the Rupnarain and the Ganges, and intercepted by the Damodar, the number of castes that lived here originally was very few. In the villages bordering the bank of the Ganges and the old bed of the Saraswati lived the higher Hindu castes—the Brahmans and Kayasthas—and certain lower castes, such as

Note.—The district totals of the Bengali, Hindi and Sonthali languages shown in the Bengal Census Report are 665,678, 48,115 and 1,267, respectively.

Kamar, Kumar, Goala, Teli, Sadgop, &c. In *thana* Jagatbullabhpur there is a prevalence of Bania and Suri castes and Musalmans of the Sunni sect. The predominance of Kaibarttas, Keora, and Sadgop is observable in all the *thanas* of Ulubaria subdivision, the chief seat of the Kaibarttas being in *thanas* Amta and Syampur. The Kaibarttas in Amta are located in three groups along the banks of the Damodar. The first of these groups about Jhingra, Rautara, Tajpur and others is on the west of the Damodar towards the northern parts of the *thana*. The second group lies on the east of the Damodar consisting of villages Chotomaira, Someswar, Rashpur, Thalia, &c. The third group is also on the east of the Damodar opposite the tract covered by the first group of the Kaibarttas, and lies in the villages of Khilia, Harishpur, Khosalpur, and Pirna (the seat of the family of the ancient Bengali poet Bharat Chandra Roy). The supreme caste among the people, viz., the Brahmans, lives on the west of the Damodar in the villages about Narit, Gazipur, &c. The Muhammadans of the *thana* are settled in the land east of the Madaria khal and contiguous to the *thana* Jagatbullabhpur in the villages about Basantapur, and on the west of the Damodar towards the Bhatora outpost in the villages called Ajangazi and Chitnan. The Brahmans are mostly giving up the caste occupation of priesthood. Kaibarttas do not all live upon cultivation—their hereditary occupation. The tendency to take to occupations not belonging to their own caste has been a somewhat marked feature. The Kaibarttas who were in old days classified as Halia and Jalia, according to their occupation of tilling and fishing, now claim to be classified as *Uttar-rarhis* and *Dakhin-rarhis*, like the Kayasthas. They formed associations against their being enumerated as Halias and Jalias, and moved their caste people in other *thanas* by issuing notices and resolutions.

38. In *thana* Syampur the predominant castes are Kaibarttas and Pods, two castes of low rank. The Kaibarttas in that *thana* settle themselves in all parts except the north-east and south-east corners, where the Pods predominate. The first group of Pods in the *thana* live in the villages of Bashudebpur, Gangahdarpur, Kasipur, &c., towards the north-east part of the *thana*, and the second group lives in Malanchbere and Guzarpur. The absence of any considerable number of high caste men anywhere in the *thana* is a remarkable fact. The Kaibarttas in this *thana* are the oldest caste people who have come for cultivation from the districts of the 24-Parganas, Hooghly, Burdwan, Midnapore, and Bankura. The first settlement of the Kaibarttas here dates about two centuries back. The present lowness of the lands proves that the land was not fit for cultivation before that date. At first they came in the cultivating season and lived temporarily, but now most of them have settled down as permanent residents. Their only wealth consists in their stock of rice, which grows rather abundantly, and is not so subject to destruction by drought and flood as the crop of the other districts. In Ulubaria, the Muhammadans are widespread, living in all the 26 circles into which the charge was divided. The bulk of the population consists, however, of Hindus of the lower orders. The Muhammadans in this *thana* are also residents since very early days. Here there is a considerable variety of Hindu castes of the lower order, who practise their ancestral trades to earn a livelihood. The chief castes in all these *thanas* in social precedents are—

(1) Brahman.
(2) Kayastha.
(3) Baidya.
(4) Barui.
(5) Tambuli.
(6) Teli.
(7) Kumhar.
(8) Kamar.
(9) Sankari.
(10) Napit
(11) Gandha Banik.
(12) Sadgop.
(13) Kansari.
(14) Malakar.
(15) Maira.
(16) Tanti.
(17) Kaibartta.
(18) Gop (Goala).
(19) Subarnabanik.
(20) Vaishnava.
(21) Kalu.
(22) Dhoba.
(23) Sunri.
(24) Bagdi.
(25) Dulia.
(26) Jelia.
(27) Tiyar.
(28) Kaora.
(29) Hari.
(30) Chandal.
(31) Muchi.

39. In *thana* Dumjor, besides the old bed of the Saraswati, now the narrow water channel which meets the Ganges near Rajganj, there is a series of villages forming a line of demarcation between the tracts peopled by many low caste Hindus and Musulmans. This channel passes through the groups of villages called Dakhinbar, Jhapardaha, Dumjor, Makardaha, Katlia, Bhandhardaha, and Andul, in all of which the Brahmans predominate; stretching towards north-east from Makardaha group, four other groups of villages are met, viz., Bhasour, Buluti, Kona, and Chamral, in which the Brahman population preponderates. The Musulmans are scattered over the *thana*, but in rather detached villages. The preponderance of Musulmans in Kolora and Bankra, two villages situated in diametrically opposite directions, is a noticeable feature. Below Kolora, there are Musulmans in the groups of villages called Dhulagore and Kamdebpur. Kaibarttas are also the predominant caste in many of the villages, but they do not occupy such a large area in contiguous situation as is found in other *thanas* of the district, viz, Amta, Syampur. These Kaibarttas do also claim the classification of Uttar-rarhi and Dakhin-rarhi instead of Halia and Jelia. The Brahmans of this *thana* are also of the *rarhi* class, and descendants of those who were brought down to Bengal from Kanauj. Many have also come from the Eastern districts. The Kaibarttas who live here were elevated from the ranks of Jalias who rendered some special services to the old Hindu king, the originator of the caste system. They, however, stick to their hereditary trade-guild unlike many other castes who are found to have given up their ancestral occupation in a more or less degree. Turning to Bagnan *thana* of the subdivision of Ulubaria, the same feature of the predomination of the Kaibarttas as

in the two adjacent *thanas* of Syampur and Amta is noticeable. The Kaibarttas here are mostly cultivators and are said to have immigrated from the other side of the Rupnarain, viz., the district of Midnapore. In about 20 villages out of 190 villages of the *thana*, the Brahmans do live. The line of Brahman villages commences from the western bank of the Damodar near Khalore, and goes through Chaudbhag, Batul, &c., to the eastern bank of the Rupnarain, along which the line may be traced up to the villages of Mellook, Panitras, Deulgram, Harope, &c. There are a few villages in which Muhammadans live. They were once a very flourishing portion of the community, but they have now declined owing to the decline of the manufacture of country papers. There are still some Muhammadans who are engaged in the manufacture of these papers, but who make a poor livelihood from it.

40. The Kana Nadi passes from north to south nearly through the middle of the *thana* Jagatbullabhpur, forming the following five groups of villages of a comparatively denser population and greater importance, viz., Jagatbullabhpur, Majhu, Balia, Patilial, Jujeswar, and Panchla. Before the construction of the East India Railway lines, the Kana Nadi was a navigable river from its leaving the Damodar near Selimabad in the district of Burdwan to its entering the Ganges near Kulsapa. The people settled from an early age on both sides of the river in groups of villages, the principal of which have been named above. At Jagatbullabhpur there are villages in which the Musulman element predominates. They are entirely of the Suni sect. The only Shia family which is found in the *thana* settled in the village.

41. In the group of villages about Patihal, Maju, and Balia, there are higher class Hindus, viz., the Brahmans and Kayasthas. The concentration of such a large number of Brahmans in this part of the *thana*, and specially in the Balia group, is in consequence of its being the seat of an ancient Hindu shrine. The Burdwan Raj granted about 2,000 bighas of rent-free land for the maintenance of the Brahmans in service of the idols. In Jujeswar group the Kaibarttas prevail, and their chief occupation was the cultivation of mulberry. This class of Kaibarttas is therefore distinguished from others by a separate name as *Tutiya* Kaibarttas. They, however, now betake themselves to cultivation and other occupation. On the west of the Kana Nadi opposite the Jagatbullabhpur group, the prevailing caste was *Tanti, i.e.*, weavers. Their number has, however, decreased very much owing to the decline of the cloth manufactures. The village Nabasan was famous for its fine production of cloth.

42. Along the banks of the Kana Nadi there are three groups of villages in which the Muhammadan element of the population prevails. The first of these are the villages about Kamalapur and Sekrahati, the second Dhasa, Narendrapur, and Bakul, and the third Goostia and Panchla. In these villages, the element of Hindu population is much below the proportion of the Muhammadans. Within the last 30 years the incidents which went much towards the distribution and destruction of castes were the silting up of the Kana Nadi, the prevalence of the malarial fever, and the decline of the native manufactory of cloth and the preparation of silk cocoons from the cultivation of the mulberry leaves. These have, however, been made up to a very large extent by the reclamation of the marshes and by improved drainage.

43. No attempts appear to have been made in the previous two censuses to ascertain sub-castes which, in the census of 1891, were carefully ascertained, and the figures of which are shown in the totalling form W.

44. Although the classification of caste and subcaste was originally principally made on the basis of occupation, it is, however, difficult to associate them in the present day exclusively with any particular occupation. Like Kaibarttas, there are men of the other lower castes who give up their hereditary trade and try to be reckoned among the higher castes. Under the circumstances there is no caste at present to which, as a rule, all the zamindars, tenure-holders, raiyats and other field labourers should respectively belong. In the earlier days of the British rule in Bengal, a classification of caste and tribes in relation to land could have been fairly aimed at. But such an attempt at present is futile owing to the laxity of the caste bond as based on occupation. From the history of the zamindars it is found that among the Hindus the zamindars were the respectable men of the higher castes, viz., Brahmans and Kayasthas. The origin of the proprietary and hereditary right of zamindars is uncertain, but it is a well known fact that old zamindars in Bengal were all men of good castes. The deviation from this rule as now observed, is traceable to the beginning of the British rule, and is due to the equalising tendency of the English law. Some of the prominent zamindars of this district are men of low castes, such as Teli, Kaibartta, and Subarnabarnik.

45. The inferior, or sub-proprietary, rights are now also held by men of various castes. They have been created by purchase, relationship, or connection with the original stock of the zamindars, or to former proprietorship lost by force or under pressure of necessity, or otherwise. So we see what has happened in the case of zamindars in their caste association has come to pass in the case of sub-proprietors of various grades. With regard to the *raiyats* this much may be said, that among all castes, high or low, they are found to exist. But then the term raiyat should not be taken to designate persons tilling the soil with their own hand. In some cases the raiyats of higher caste hold land on payment of a nominal rent, or in lieu of some priestly or other services paid to the zamindars. This practice is no longer observed in these days, and raiyats of whatever caste they may be have to pay the proper rent for lands. Field labourers belong to the distinct class of *Chassa* Kaibarttas and are paid by daily wages. Those who are paid by monthly rate are called *Krishans*. A practice is said to be gaining ground by which the labourer agrees to pay the rent of a bigha or two and appropriate the produce to himself, receiving wages for other lands he cultivates.

The following is a report * on castes by Babu Opendra Nath Ghosh, Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah :—

46. In paragraph 38 a clear and concise account of the location of the castes in Howrah district has been attempted on the line of Mr. Oldham's treatment of the subject with reference to the district of Burdwan. The variation of castes since 1872 now remains to be dealt with. The statement below shows the population of each caste in 1881 and 1891as obtained from the census statistics. As the figures of caste in the census report of 1872 include both the districts of Hooghly and Howrah, they have not been entered in the statement.

47. Although it has been explained in Mr. Grierson's report in what parts of the district what particular caste prevails, it cannot be explained from the materials now available, whether the number within the specified area has decreased or increased.

48. In the last census, statistics of sub-caste were collected. The names of sub-castes were not ascertained and their number obtained in the previous census. The numerous Hindu sub-castes are worth a study, and in this respect, the present census offers a most important feature. The statement of castes below does not contain the names of sub-caste.

49. The total number of main castes of the Hindus in Howrah is 84, of which 33 come from Bihar and the North-West. In 1881, 58 castes were returned, of which 16 belonged to Bihar and the North-West. In 1881, 2,268 persons were shown as those whose castes were unspecified. In the last census, 23,603 persons were not returned under any specified caste as shown in the statement B. Of the large number, however, 11,831 were returned as devotees and mendicants, including 11,575 Vaishnabas, and 9,080 were returned by occupation including 6,841 Jalias.

Leaving aside these figures, the number of men whose castes have not been specified comes to 2,692. In the census of 1881, both Jalias and Vaishnavas were taken to be special castes and entered as such. The fishermen, who properly belong to the Jalia section of the Kaibarttas, return themselves as Jalias, and the religious mendicants recruited according to the apostolic doctrine of Chaitanya returned themselves as Vaishnavas by caste.

50. The caste tables were compiled with extreme care in the totalling form Z for main castes, and W for sub-castes. The abstraction of these caste sheets was absolutely strictly made, and the castes, as returned in the schedule books, were cautiously transcribed. In spite of the difficulties which attended the compilation of these sheets, the result as compared with the figures of the past census is excellent.

Statement A on caste of the Hindus.

1	(a) 1872.	1881.	1891.	1	(a) 1872.	1881.	1891.
	2	3	4		2	3	4
Brahman	...	39,141	41,030 (b) 1,918	Bagdi	...	54,943	59,621 6,849
Rajput	...	1,039	2,007 752	Barui	...	4,219	4,741
Kayastha	...	15,849	16,990 141	Bauri	...	4	34 11
Kaibartta	...	155,653	177,982 173	Dhobie	...	9,324	9,272 5
Baniya	...	7,107	1,242 6,206	Chamar	...	5,815	1,698 5,281
Chassa	...	...	77	Chandal	...	9,282	6,503 3,270
Goala	...	17,317	18,987 342	Dom	...	3,209	2,004 166
Jalia	...	6,467	(c) 6,841	Hari	...	2,150	...
Jugi	...	4,234	4,240 225	Kapali	...	1,698	1,923
Kalu	...	3,494	4,297	Mal	...	16	15 13
Kumhar	...	5,712	6,067 26	Pan	...	..	...
Kurmi	...	842	1,816 19	Pasi	...	424	411 6
Madak	...	2,770	3,157 340	Pod	...	14,138	16,548 5
Mali	...	1,163	1,399	Sunri	...	3,085	3,038 739
Malla	...	657	97	Aguri	...	...	156
Napit	...	11,460	11,512 89	Baidya	...	...	91 950
Sadgop	...	12,692	15,928 3,848	Bedia	...	...	55 100
Sonar	...	3,042	60 3,624	Baiti	...	...	113 608
Sudra	...	...	...	Chasadhopa	...	...	412 717
Teli	...	11,998	10,114 6,503	Kaora	...	...	18,798
Tambul	...	1,896	1,989 8	Kansari	...	...	17 372
Tanti	...	14,250	13,542 102	Malakar	...	...	888 31
Tiyar	...	15,623	18,789	Sukli	...	...	1,828

(a) The figures for 1872 are not available for the district of Howrah alone.
(b) The figures below under brackets refer to sub-castes which were treated as main caste.
(c) See Appendix E.

* Vide letter No. 314C., dated the 21st December 1892, from G. A. Grierson, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah.

Note.—According to the Bengal Census Report the figures for—
1.—Brahmans are 42,733.
2.—Baniyas are 7,955.
3.—Chamars including Muchis are 6,714.

1	(a) 1872.	1881.	1891.	1	(a) 1872.	1881.	1891.
	2	3	4		2	3	4
Bhat	...	...	125	Chain	...	...	5
			52	Chakma	...	...	1
Babhan	...	...	...	Garait	...	...	185
			98	Gugar	...	...	8
Barhi	...	1,794	1,444	Kharia	...	...	51
Bind	...	9	104	Kora	...	...	18
Dhanuk	...	18	6	Kshatriya	...	...	626
Dosadh	...	883	1,027				780
			146	Khatic	...	...	15
Gareri	...	108	5	Patni	...	...	20
			1	Nat	...	...	5
Ghatwal	...	13	8	Sankari	...	...	392
Kahar	...	1,954	1,784	Turaha	...	...	33
			828				20
Kalwar	...	47	...	Bhuiya	...	5	82
Lohar	...	4,373	5,192				818
			135	Bhumij	...	...	80
Kandra	...	...	...	Gond	...	...	...
Kandu	...	320	275	Kharwar	...	...	...
			140	Koch	...	95	...
Karan	...	19	...	Kol	...	...	13
Kewat	...	1	169	Santhal	...	67	160
			14				5
Khandait	...	132	352	Vaishnava	...	15,284	(b) 11,575
Koiri	...	313	435	Unspecified	...	34,303	...
			2				
Musahar	...	...	26				
			6	Total ...	...	500,870	...
Nuniya	...	256	314				
Rajwar	...	133	59				
Tatwa	...	...	...	Koranga	...		2,453
Agarwala	...	...	32				15
Bhar	...	...	372	Kadar	...	...	2
			144	Munda	...	...	...
Bari	...	...	12				111
Bhaskar	...	...	10	Murairi	...	...	28
Banpar	...	...	15	Sorahia	...	...	41
Bhuimali	...	...	72	Uraon	...	...	380
			3,370				938

(a) The figures for 1872 are not available for the district of Howrah alone.
(b) See Statement B below.

Statement B—On caste—Showing improperly defined castes in the Census of 1891.

	Males.	Females.	
Religious devotees and mendicants ...	5,624	6,207	Contains Vaishnavas—males 5,452 and females 6,123.
Persons returned by title or unidentifiable sub-caste.	502	156	
Persons returned by occupation ...	4,833	4,247	Contains Julias—males 3,294 and females 3,547.
Persons returned by unidentifiable caste or not returned by caste.	646	339	
Persons returned by locality ...	748	301	

Head IX.—Occupations.

51. With regard to the point I beg to observe that a classification of occupations of the people of this district is required according to castes. But such a classification by castes cannot be ascertained from the result of the present census, for no step was taken with a view to collect such statistics. For a report on this head a complete statement of the occupations of the people may be given, arranged according to the sub-head proposed in the Government report, as soon as figures are received from the office of the Superintendent of Census Operations, but for information as to classification of castes, the schedule books are required to be abstracted. The occupations of females were abstracted from the schedule books strictly according to the instructions issued on that subject, viz., a female's occupation will be the occupation of the person by whom she is maintained, provided she does not earn her livelihood by personal exertions. If occupations of females have to be classified according to the instructions in the Government letter calling for this report, reference must be made to the schedule books.

The following is a report* on occupations by Babu Opendra Nath Ghosh, Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah:—

52. The occupation tables in the census of 1872 were drawn up according to the classification prescribed by Colonel Strachey. The preparation of the tables is said to have involved enormous labour, but the result was not regarded as satisfactory. The figures in the table with regard to this district are incorporated with the figures for the district of Hooghly. Under the circumstances no comparison with them can be made with the

* *Vide* letter No. 3140., dated the 21st December 1892 from G. A. Grierson, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah.

statistics of the last two censuses in 1881 and 1891. I have, however, added the annexed statement which contains the classification made of the occupation in 1872.

Occupation statistics of 1872 *for Howrah with Hooghly.*

		Male.	Female.
Class I.—Persons employed under Government, Municipal, or other local services.	.....	7,019	Nil.
Class II.—Professional persons ...	1. Religion ... 2. Education ... 3. Law ... 4. Medicine ... 5. Fine arts ... 6. Survey and Engineering.	19,656	1,615
Class III.—Persons in service and performing personal services.	1. Domestic ... 2. Other than domestic. 3. Inn-keepers ...	31,732	8,529
Class IV.—Persons engaged in agriculture	1. In agriculture 2. With animal ...	192,976	6,360
Class V.—Persons engaged in commerce and trade.	1. Conveyance of persons and goods. 2. Keeping money and lending and sale of goods.	35,492	2,029
Class VI.—Persons engaged in mechanical arts— Manufactures, enginering operations. Sale of goods manufactured and prepared for consumption.	1. Manufactures 2. Construction ... Arts. 3 Miscellaneous artizans. 4. Dealers in vegetables. 5. Dealers in animal food. 6. Dealer in drink. 7. Dealers in stimulants. 8. Dealers in perfumes. 9. Dealer in vegetable substances.	86,986	25,597
Class VII.—Miscellaneous persons not classified otherwise.	.....	348,995	721,570

53. In the statement below, the statistics of occupation have been shown side by side for 1881 and 1891, according to the scheme suggested in the Government Resolution. It must be noticed here that the list of occupations by caste cannot be made from the statistics which are in hand. Occupation statistics have been preferred both in the census of 1881 and in the last census only by locality.

1881.					1891.				
Class.	Order.	Sub-order.	Male.	Female.	Class.	Order.	Group.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
				A.—Agricultural.					
Agricultural ...	1. Persons possessing and working the lands.	1. Agriculturist ...	105,491 10,739	2,764 44	Pasture and agriculture.	Agriculture ...	1. Interest in land (5 sub-heads).	120,914	125,200
		2. Arboriculturist ...	... ...	4 ...			2. Agricultural labourers (1 sub-head).	21,414	24,559
		3. Horticulturist ...	850 6	... ...			3. Growers of special product and tree (sub-heads 12).	5,749	6,396
	2. Persons engaged about animals.	1. Engaged about animals.	2,299 350	456 37			4. Agricultural training and supervision (sub-heads 2).	3,195	2,368
						Engaged about animals.	Stock-breeding and dealing.	2,743	1,073
							Subsidiary services to stock.	11	27

1881.					1891.				
Class.	Order.	Sub-order.	Male.	Female.	Class.	Order.	Group.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
B.—*Professional.*									
ofessional ...	Persons engaged in learned professions.	Clergyman	3,724 401	406 24	Professions	Learned and artistic professions.	Religion (priests) (6 sub-heads).	5 613	5,796
		Lawyer	188 121	... ...			Education (3 sub-heads) ...	1,579	1,456
		Physician	803 181	261 57			Literature (3 sub-heads)...	9,099	5,807
		Authors	74 17	... ...			Law (5 sub-heads) ...	542	627
		Artists	173 91	8 8			Medicine (6 sub-heads) ...	1,807	2,169
		Musicians	394 51	4 3			Engineering and surveying (4 sub-heads).	211	213
		Actors	104 2	11 4			Other sciences (3 sub-heads).	48	43
		Teachers	710 184	10 8			Pictoria lacts and sculpture.	244	124
		Scientific persons ...	17 7	... ...			Music, acting, drawing (3 sub-heads).	969	666
							Sports and amusements ...	168	148
C.—*Commercial.*									
mmercial ..	Persons who buy, or sell, or keep, or lend, money, &c.	2	6,980 3,515	1,327 445	Commercial ...	Commerce ...	Dealers in money and securities (3 sub-heads).	597	671
							General merchandise (2 sub-heads).	2,235	2,444
	Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, &c.	6	10,233 3,288	17 5			Dealing, unspecified (4 sub-heads).	1,725	1,292
							Middlemen	175	192
							Contractors and farmers...	355	369
						Transport ...	Railway (5 sub-heads) ...	429	551
							Roads (5 sub-heads) ...	4,360	3,393
							Water (9 sub-heads) ...	13,333	7,128
							Message (5 sub-heads) ...	1,543	2,260
						Storage ...	Storage and weighing (5 sub-heads).	1,664	1,013
							Toys, curiosities	366	291
							Music	93	120
							Necklace, bracelets ...	389	284
							Furniture	82	105
							Harness	22	16
							Tools and machinery ...	5,482	3,529
							Arms and ammunition ...	74	68
						Glass and pottery, &c.	Glass and pottery ...	3,170	2,885
							Wood, cane and leaves ...	7,167	8,459
							Drugs, gums, dyes ...	366	276
							Leather, horn, bone, grease.	1,319	1,266
						Light, firing, forage.	Lighting	1,484	1,922
							Fuel, forage	631	1,616
						Building ...	Building materials ...	4,067	3,103
							Artifices	2,836	2,847
						Vehicles and vessels.	Railway	64	77
							Cart	66	47
							Ships and boats	302	6
D.—*Artisans.*									
anufacturing and Industrial Class.	1. Persons working and dealing in fabrics, &c.	6	12,866 3,717	5,239 1,121	Preparation and supply of material substances.	1. Fabrics ...	Wool and fur	4	7
							Silk	43	69
							Cotton	1,128	1,651
							Jute, flax, &c.	10,346	8,303
							Dress	5,826	7,105
	2. Persons engaged in food and drink.	3	9,815 2,599	24,186 3,338		2. Food and drink.	Animal food (8 sub-heads)	11,491	14,174
							Vegetable food (8 sub-heads.)	3,768	7,123
							Drink and condiments (17 sub-heads).	7,727	7,027
	Persons engaged in working and dealing in animal substances.	3	162 35	140 18		3. Metals and precious stones.	Gold, silver, precious stones.	2,635	3,133
							Brass, copper bell metal.	808	1,279
							Tin, Zinc, Mercury and lead.	163	165
	Dealing in vegetable substances.	5	3,855 1,648	767 143			Iron and steel	2,391	1,789
						4. Supplementary requirements.	Paper	1,113	807
							Books and prints	711	843
	3. Dealing in minerals.	14	7,497 2,658	648 122			Watches, &c.	32	44
							Carving and engraving ...	83	89
	4. Persons engaged in art and mechanics.	1	6,101 3,681	138 80					

1881.					1891.				
Class.	Order.	Sub-order.	Male.	Female.	Class.	Order.	Group.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
			G.—Serving Group.						
Domestic	1. Wives	.....	...	...	Personal services ...	Personal and sanitary.	Personal and domestic ...	16,117	15,2
	2. Persons engaged in personal services.	.....	11,101 4,552	3,396 1,585			Non-domestic establishment.	63	7
							Sanitation	874	73
			H.—Unproductive.						
Non-productive ...	Labourer and others...	.....	11,350 6,381	2,643 1,633	Indefinite and independent.	Indefinite ...	Unskilled labour ...	60,889	51,81
							Undefined	188	2,32
	Persons of rank or property not returned under any occupation.	.....	1,015 31	225 2		Independent...	Property and alms ...	4,866	5,38
			117,599	276,252					
	Persons of no specified occupation.	.....	15,442	35,895			Supported at the public charge.	318	31

54. In 1881, occupations were concentrated into six classes, which were divided into 17 orders and 82 sub-orders. Occupations in the last census were, however, concentrated into seven classes, which were divided into 77 groups, which were again subdivided into 478 sections. The subject has been treated very accurately in the present census, and the result obtained may be said to be highly satisfactory.

55. It should be noticed here that the class A, viz., Government, of the last census has been merged into class A of the census of 1881, viz., professional class. The other differences were such as to render the statistics of the latter census more explicit and complete than those of the former.

56. The draft heads for occupation in the Government Resolution do not exactly tally with those made in the censuses of 1881 and 1891 under this head. The following statement shows how they have been included in 1881 and 1891 :—

Draft heads in the Resolutions.	Head under which it falls in 1881.	Head under which it falls in 1891.
1	2	3
A. Agricultural ...	IV. Agriculture ...	B. Agriculture.
B. Professional ...	I. Professional ...	F. Profession.
C. Commercial ...	VII. Commercial ...	E Commerce, Transport, &c.
D. Artisans— ...	V. Manufacturing and industrial.	D. Preparation and supply of material substances.
1. Fabrics and dress stuff.		
2. Food and drink.		
3. Animal substances.		
4. Vegetable substances.		
5. Mineral substances.		
E. Pastoral group ...	IV. Agriculture ...	B. *Supra.*
F. Hunting and fishing group.	No special classification was made.	F. *Supra.*
G. Serving group ...	II. Domestic	Personal and sanitary services.

Draft heads in the Resolutions.	Head under which it falls in 1881.	Head under which it falls in 1891.
1	2	3
H. *Unproductive group*—		
1. Actors and mimics ...	In I, *supra*	F. *Supra*, group 71.
2. Astrologers ...	Ditto	Ditto 69.
3. Dancers and singers...	Ditto	Ditto 71.
4. Devotees ...	No specification ...	Ditto 76.
5. Genealogists and bards	Ditto	Ditto 69.
6. Jugglers, snake-charmers, and animal exhibitors.	Ditto	Ditto 73.
7. Musicians, ballad reciters.	In I, *supra*	Ditto 73.
8. Tumblers and acrobats.	No specification ...	Ditto.
		Class A includes Administration, which in 1881 was included under Profession.

57. The manufacturing and industrial class of 1881 and class of preparation and supply of material substances in 1891 contain analogous subjects, but for a thorough understanding how the occupation statistics of the present census are made much more carefully than those of 1881, I have enumerated below the subdivision of them—

1881.	1891.	
1. Persons engaged in art and mechanic productions.	Food and drink.	1. Animal food. 2. Vegetable food. 3. Drink, condiments and narcotics.
2. Persons working and dealing in the textile fabrics and in dress.	Light fuel and forage.	4. Lighting. 5. Fuel and forage.
3. Persons working and dealing in food and drink.	Building ...	6. Building materials. 7. Artificers in building.
4. Persons working and dealing in animal substances.	Vehicles and vessels.	8. Railway. 9. Carts and carriages. 10. Ships and boats.
5. Persons working and dealing in vegetable substances.	Supplementary requirements.	11. Paper. 12. Books and prints. 13. Watches, clocks, and scientific instruments. 14. Carving, engraving. 15. Toys, curiosities. 16. Music and musical instruments. 17. Necklaces, bracelets, beads, sacred thread. 18. Furniture. 19. Harness. 20. Tools and machinery. 21. Arms and ammunition.
6. Persons working and dealing in minerals.	Textile fabrics.	22. Cotton. 23. Jute, flax. 24. Dress.
	Metals and Precious stones.	25. Gold, silver, &c. 26. Brass, copper, bell-metal. 27. Tin, zinc, mercury and lead. 28. Iron and steel.
	Glass Pottery.	29. Glass and chinaware. 30. Earthen and stoneware.
	Wood, cane, leaves.	31. Timber, wood. 32. Cane-work and matting.
	Drugs, Gums, Dyes.	33. Gums, wax. 34. Drugs, dyes. 35. Leather, horn, bones.

58. The figures under the head of Administration are shown in the subjoined statement:—

1881.					1891.				
Class.	Order.	Sub-order.	Male.	Female.	Class.	Order.	Group.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
			Administration.						
I. Professional ...	Persons engaged in the clerical or Local Government.	.....	3,063	...	Government ...	Administration.	Service of the Imperial and Provincial.	1,588	1,402
		.....	1,013	...			Service of Local and Municipal Boards.	116	41
	Army and Navy ...		15	...			Village service	2,899	2,270
			14	...		Army	.....	1	0

59. It will appear from statement in paragraph 49 that in 1881 a very large number of females was put under a class non-productive and as persons of no specified occupation. In the present census the statistics of female occupation were gathered as those of their guardians. No step was taken to eliminate the female occupations as they were, for the schedule books contained no such information. The fact has been already noticed in paragraph 47.

60. The district of Howrah possesses a very large variety of occupations. The following figures show the number of occupations obtained in each of the following districts:—

Burdwan	288
Bankura	246
Birbhum	234
Midnapore	249
Hooghly	278
Howrah	308

The compilation of occupations in the totalling form Y was made with the greatest care, and no labour was spared to make the list thoroughly accurate.

Head X.—Administrative.*

61. For the purposes of the census, the district excluding the municipalities was divided into 7 charges and 15 sub-charges, as mentioned below:—

Charges.	*Sub-charges.*
I.—Dumjor ...	(1) Dumjor Thana. (2) Sankrail Outpost. (3) Debipara Outpost.
II.—Jagatballabhpur ...	(4) Jagatballabhpur Thana. (5) Panchla Outpost.
III.—Mohiari ...	(6) Mohiari Outpost. (7) Nelwa Outpost.
IV.—Ulubaria (thana) ...	(8) North Ulubaria Thana. (9) South Ulubaria Thana.
V.—Bagnan (thana) ...	(10) Bagnan. (11) Melak.
VI.—Amta ...	(12) Amta Thana. (13) Bhatora Outpost.
VII.—Syampur ...	(14) Syampur Thana. (15) Mandalghat Outpost.

Each charge consisted of a *thana* and each sub-charge of an outpost or part of a *thana*. The density of population in the parts of *thana* Dumjor adjoining the municipality was considered sufficiently important to make Mohiari outpost a separate charge under the superintendentship of the District Engineer. Each charge was divided into supervisors' circles, of which there were 197, and these were again subdivided into 3,036 enumerators' blocks. There were, besides, 164 boat enumerators, 29 road enumerators, and 30 enumerators for censusing the police-stations and outposts. The Superintendent was the highest census officer in a charge, and all instructions received from the office of the Superintendent of Census, Operations, Bengal, as well as orders which appeared from time to time to be necessary,

Vide letter No. 273C., dated 16th January 1892, from W. Fiddian, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah, to the Superintendent, Census Operations, Bengal.

were issued to them in the first instance, to be communicated by them to the supervisors, who in their turn had to communicate and explain them to the enumerators. The supervisors were, therefore, very convenient channels for conveying instructions to enumerators, who were scattered over several villages, and whom it would therefore be very difficult for an outsider to get together at short notice. They had also to supervise the preliminary operations and to test the accuracy of the enumerators' work, for which they were held responsible. The supervisors were in effect the executive managers of the enumerators and their work, as it was impossible for the Superintendents to look after all the blocks in detail. The two municipalities of Howrah and Bally, for the census of which great care had to be taken, were divided into ten and three charges respectively, each of these charges corresponding with a municipal ward. Ten charges of Howrah Municipality were divided into 54 circles, and these 54 circles into 458 blocks. The three charges of Bally were divided into seven circles and subdivided into 92 blocks. For the enumeration of the European and Eurasian population an unpaid special European Superintendent was appointed. The out-houses of European residents were, however, enumerated as part of the native blocks by the ordinary enumerator. The general supervision of the census in the entire district remained in my hands, and to preserve uniformity all necessary instructions and orders were issued under my hand and signature. The working out of the operations in the subdivision and in the municipality was entrusted to the Sub-divisional Officer and to Mr. Chunder Nath Banerjee, an experienced Deputy Magistrate, but their jurisdiction was confined to matters of detail, and in no case were they authorized to make any departure from the general instructions without obtaining my previous sanction. The formation of blocks was chiefly based upon the "B" Register of 1881, but this latter having been prepared without much regard to the contiguity of the villages entered in it, their serial order has had to a great extent to be deviated from, in order to secure a more natural arrangement for them. The doubts and difficulties experienced by the supervisors and enumerators were promptly attended to, and every care was taken to impress upon them the duties they had to perform. Preliminaries, such as the formation of blocks, the numbering and marking of houses, had been completed by the end of December last, and in the following fortnight, the enumerators were chiefly occupied with the preparation of draft block lists and in filling up the test schedules issued to them. The blocks lists, showing as they did the number of houses in each block, and the number of persons residing in each house, were of very great use at the time of distributing enumeration books, as a glance at them would be enough to ascertain the book of particular size that would be required for a particular block, and this was perhaps their chief use. As regards the filling up of test schedules, the supervisors were instructed to meet their enumerators at convenient centres, and to have the schedules filled up in their presence. This course was generally adopted, and it had one great advantage, namely, that while it saved the supervisors from having to be occupied in the same work from day to day, it helped to secure uniformity in the mode of filling up the enumeration schedules, as any difficulties which the enumerators might have had regarding any particular column in it could be explained then and there to all present at such meetings. A sufficient number of the test schedules was examined personally by the Superintendents. The accuracy of the schedules was, however, in very many cases more fully secured by the enumerators preparing draft copies of the schedules in rough paper, and when the supervisors had corrected them, the enumerators filled in the bound schedule books accordingly. The preliminary, or first enumeration, commenced from the 15th January and was almost completed by the 15th February; there was thus ample time for the entries being checked by the Superintendents and supervisors, before the final census came on. For the convenience of the enumerator, the village *chaukidar* was ordered to accompany him in his round on the night of the 26th February, and to carry the schedule books on the following morning to the supervisor, who was to wait at a convenient place previously appointed. The books were all delivered in good time.

62. *Special arrangements.*—The census of travellers on roads was taken under the immediate control and supervision of the District Superintendent of Police, and considering the difficulty of getting the work done by ordinary enumerators, literate constables were told off at a distance of four to five miles from each other on the main or trunk roads of the district. Distinct instructions were given to the enumerators to census only those who appeared to them to be really wayfarers, and yellow tickets were distributed to these in order to guard against the possibility of their being counted again. With regard to the census of the boat population, it was arranged that in large rivers and *khals* between the boundaries of two districts, all boats sailing past or anchored to the Howrah side should be taken in this district. Within the district itself, the arrangement was to place one or more enumerators at each mooring *ghát* according to the number of boats that were expected to be at anchor there. A few patrol boats were only found necessary at the confluence of the Ganges and the Damodar, and the Ganges and the Rupnarian. The patrol stations were so fixed as to be under the constant surveillance of some responsible police officer, and the result was entirely satisfactory. The census of the boat population within the port of Calcutta was taken charge of by the special Census Officer of Calcutta, and I had only to arrange for the censusing of the persons on the shore by the local house enumerators. The boat enumerators were selected from the most intelligent men available, and most of them took a real interest in the work. No arrangement was necessary for the enumeration of persons on board steamers, in view of the instructions conveyed in Census Superintendent's circular No. 39, dated the 20th January 1891. A special case was, however, made by the Superintendent, by asking me to make arrangement for censusing the passengers of the steamers plying between Midnapore

and Ulubaria on the night of the 26th, by his letter No. 751C., dated the 8—12th February 1891, and his memorandum No. 819C., dated the 18th idem. The census of police-stations and outposts, the Botanical Gardens, the Howrah Jail and Dispensary, was taken by the officers in charge of those institutions. The managers of mills and docks were supplied with schedule books, and requested to census their servants and such of the labourers as might be at work on the night of the 26th. This request was without exception ungrudgingly complied with, and the schedule books properly filled up were returned in due season. Special schedules were given to Europeans and Eurasians, and the distribution and collection of such schedules, so far as regarded the Howrah Municipality, fell upon its Secretary, Mr. E. A. Parsick, who possesses an extensive local knowledge. Within the Howrah Municipality, again, private schedules were issued to resident gazetted officers, Honorary Magistrates, and Municipal Commissioners. Elsewhere they were issued with much discrimination. All these schedules were, however, carefully incorporated into the blocks to which they belonged. The railway authorities were requested to arrange for the census of the railway premises and travellers on the census night within the jurisdiction of this district, strictly in accordance with Circular No. 2930., dated the 10th November 1891, and also according to Circular No. 17, dated the 10th November 1890. Schedule books with all necessary instructions were issued to all public institutions, such as hospitals, jails, colleges, &c., and to the mills and workshops. Private schedules were not demanded by the Superintendent of the Bally Municipality. One hundred and four private schedules were issued in the Howrah Municipality to 52 gentlemen, who were Municipal Commissioners, Honorary Magistrates, and gazetted officers.

63. The general instructions conveyed in the Census Superintendent's circular were not deviated from in any way.

64. The definition of a "village" given in paragraph 2 of Circular No. 10, dated the 30th July 1890, has been generally adhered to. It has sometimes so happened, however, that a large tract of land going by the same name, which formerly lay uninhabited, has been settled upon by cultivators who live in isolated groups of cottages. These groups have had to be included in the same village, although far away from each other, because none of them was so large as to be entitled to the appellation of a village by itself. The total number of villages in the present census has diminished to 1,322 from 1,488 of the census of 1881.

65. The definition of a "house" as laid down in paragraph 2 of instructions to supervisors has also been strictly acted upon in this district. The chief consideration in numbering houses has been to ascertain whether their inmates live in common or separate mess, and this has resulted in the room occupied by a widow, who cooks separately from the other members of the family, being counted as a separate house. The adoption of this rule has led to some inconvenience in the Howrah Municipality, where a great many workmen are frequently to be found residing in the same *bari* (assemblage of rooms within one and the same enclosure), and yet cooking their food separately. In some cases two workmen occupying the same room cook separately, and strictly speaking this one room would have to be numbered as two houses—a veritable *reductio ad absurdum*. To consider each workman as constituting a "house" and to put as many numbers on the same *bari*, as there are such labourers living in it, would seem to serve no useful purpose. Such a *bari* might safely be counted as one house just in the same way as a *sarai*, the more so when it is remembered that the inmates do not live with their wives and children. The prohibition of entering more than one mess in the same schedule involved in such cases a large amount of wastage. The Census Superintendent's circular, therefore, withdrawing the prohibition, though somewhat late, afforded much relief at a time when the demand for schedule books was at its highest. In rural tracts, the difficulty just adverted to has not been felt, and the present definition has been found to work well.

66. Blocks of 50 houses have been the rule, but the last block in a village has generally consisted of a much less number of houses. The following shows the average number of houses per block and circle:—

Name of sub-charge.	Average number of houses in circle.	Average number of houses in block.
1	2	3
Bagnan	616	37
Mellock	686	37
Mohiari	482	43
Nelua	401	43
Amta	594	42
Bhatora	604	39
Dumjor	691	43
Sankrail	636	40
Debiparah	578	44
North Ulubaria	728	40
South ,, ...	700	35
Jagatballabhpur	564	41
Panchla	531	39
Syampur	573	29
Mandalghat	552	30

The proposed plan of dividing large villages, not into blocks of 50 houses, but into blocks of varying sizes to suit the schedule books, has proved a failure. The best plan has been found to be that of keeping a uniform size, *i.e.*, 50 houses except for the last block.

67. *The numbering of houses.*—Outside the municipalities the houses were generally numbered with tar. In some cases ink was used, and in others the figures were painted with a preparation of oil and vermilion. The general instruction was to put the marks on doors and windows and such other conspicuous places, high enough to be above the reach of boys, who might otherwise disfigure them. This instruction was followed as closely as it might be, and it ought to be said to the credit of the enumerators that the marks were generally very well put on.

68. The probable cost of materials for numbering the houses in a block would vary according to its size from one anna to one anna and a half. Charge Superintendents of the mufassal portion of the district were allowed to incur necessary expenses for such materials, because the materials would vary in different places, and it was not expected, as a rule, that any charge would be claimed for such petty items, and in a great many places no such charge has been made. The total amount charged for such expenses was Rs. 27-9, and out of this Re. 1-11 has been refunded.

69. As to the practicability of a permanent numbering of houses, I entertain serious doubts. In case of brick-built houses and other permanent structures this may be feasible, and the marks put upon them may last for some time, but the purposes of a permanent numbering can hardly be served in the case of thatched cottages. In the first place, the marks put upon them are not likely to endure for any length of time, not to mention the difficulty of finding places suitable for affixing such marks at all. In most cases they will have to be affixed to bamboo posts or mud walls which require to be changed and repaired almost yearly. In the next place, it is to be borne in mind that the poorer classes of men take leases of plots of land and build cottages of slight materials at their own expense, either for residential accommodation or for opening up shops, and when they have occasion to give up the land they pull down the house and carry the materials to their new place of habitation. It is far too much to expect that the cottagers who are ignorant people will take care about the numbers, and the cost of maintaining an agency for their inspection and preservation would be out of all proportion to the importance of the undertaking.

70. *Agency.*—There were 17 superintendents exercising control over seven charges and 15 sub-charges, five out of seven superintendents of charges being also superintendents of as many sub-charges. They were all officials, viz.—

1 Deputy Inspector of Schools.
1 District Engineer.
1 District Board Overseer.
2 Sub-Inspectors of Schools.
1 Inspector of Police.
7 Sub-Inspectors of Police.
4 Head Constables.

From the experience of this census, I am of opinion that the work of the superintendents can best be done by police officers who have control of the *chaukidars*, know the country intimately, and alone can exercise influence over the people. Without them the census would be a costly failure, and other departmental officials have ultimately to fall back on the police for support. It is a material hindrance to educational work to employ the Sub-Inspectors on census duty, and in one or two instances the result was not quite satisfactory. Practically the District Magistrate with the aid of the District Superintendent and Subdivisional Officer and the agency of the police can do the work best, and in any case the police force must be the mainstay of the undertaking. Of course the supervisors would be taken from the village population. Under the superintendents there were 197 supervisors and 3,259 enumerators, including those employed for taking the census of boats and travellers on roads. The supervisors were selected from among chief *gurus*, school-masters, *naibs*, petty *talukdars* and such other intelligent residents. Among the 14 superintendents within the municipalities, 11 were native gentlemen who were either municipal commissioners, pleaders or Government pensioners. Three of them were European gentlemen, residents of this town. The supervisors and enumerators were the best available educated and intelligent men. It should be noted here that to procure gratuitous work from a better class of men got for the census of the municipality in close proximity with the town of Calcutta where enumerators were amply paid, involved no small amount of difficulty and trouble. This mode of recruiting the supervisors was determined upon at a meeting held in my cutcherry on the 10th October 1890, at which were present among others the Subdivisional Officer, the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Howrah, and the Inspector of Police, Ulubaria. The enumerators were taken from *panchayets*, shop-keepers, and other intelligent villagers. Their nomination rested chiefly with the supervisors, but the appointment *parwanas* were issued under my signature, except those for the subdivision, which the Subdivisional Officer was especially authorized to sign. As the supervisors were primarily responsible for the work within their circles, it was but fair that they should be allowed to choose their own enumerators. Every care was, however, taken to select such of the villagers as were both willing and efficient.

71. Nearly all the supervisors and enumerators were willing, and performed their work satisfactorily. Eight enumerators were prosecuted for refusing or neglecting to do their work, and five of these were convicted and fined, whilst the rest of the cases were withdrawn. The

cases were not of much importance, but I thought it at the time desirable to take prompt notice of them in order to prevent the contagion spreading. The villagers mostly consider themselves honoured when selected by Government to perform an important function, and I think that this feeling, conjoined with the prospect thrown out to the best of the enumerators, of a few appointments in the census compilation office in this district, had much to do in inducing them to take up the work and do it with an alacrity which was certainly creditable. It is a noticeable feature that so much time and trouble were expended by the workers *gratis* and with so much readiness for the most part. No doubt the knowledge that Government had ordered the census was sufficient in the rural parts of the district to secure a ready obedience without any thought of grumbling.

72. As previously indicated in paragraph 64 of this report, the cost of materials for marking the houses and of paper for preparing the draft block lists was defrayed by the supervisors. A few of them have charged for the expenses thus incurred. The majority of the supervisors have, however, made no charges at all.

73. The work of enumeration was wholly done by an unpaid agency, except in the Ulubaria subdivision, where two enumerators were paid Rs. 2 each under Census Superintendent's No. 751, dated 8th February 1891, but the clerical work entailed by the census being too heavy for the ordinary establishment of Howrah to be able satisfactorily to cope with it, two clerks on a salary of Rs. 10 a month were entertained at the head-quarters from the middle of December; and a third clerk on the same pay was employed in the subdivision from the 21st January last. The pay bills of these clerks amounted to Rs. 63-13-10.

74. *Attitude of the people.*—The ignorant classes of the people were suspicious but not obstructive. Not a single case was reported from either the sadar or subdivisional charges, where the owners or occupiers of houses had refused reasonable access to the enumerators or had refused to answer questions put by them. Two cases of an unimportant character occurred in the Howrah Municipality, where the enumerators had been insulted while discharging their duties, but as they were both settled out of court no remarks are necessary. In fact the recent census being the third of its kind taken in these provinces, the people have grown accustomed to it, and they do not now look upon it with that amount of consternation which they might have evinced on former occasions; yet there is said to have been an impression among the lower orders that such operations are only a prelude to the imposition of a new tax.

75. *Correctness of results.*—The entries are, I believe, as a rule correct. The preliminary enumeration, as has already been said, was completed in good time, so as to leave ample time for the entries being checked by the supervisors and superintendents, nearly all of whom took a real interest in the work. While on tour, I myself examined many test-slips and enumeration books, and from what I saw, I consider that the work is free from any material error. I would here note that one's previous impressions as to the relative quality of census work done in the backward and advanced parts of the district, respectively, were not borne out by the facts. One would expect the enumeration of the more advanced parts to be the best done, but the reverse was the case. The most neat and carefully prepared schedule books were those of the most remote and backward *thanas*, and those nearer to Howrah and containing more educated persons were the worst, Howrah itself taking the palm for slovenliness and want of care. The best *thana* was that of Syampur to the extreme south of the district, and its schedules were for the most part copper-plate models of neatness. It is not, therefore, according to the experience of this district that the rural and somewhat uneducated localities suffer in the least in the quality of census work, as compared with the advanced areas, but as a rule show a better result. I do not, however, mean to say that the work in the town of Howrah and the adjoining thanas is not fairly accurate.

76. *Increase or decrease of population.*—The following comparative table shows the increase or decrease of population in this district since the census of 1881:—

Thanas.	Census of 1881.	Census of 1891.	Increase per cent.
1	2	3	4
Dumjor	128,477	147,749	14·9
Jagatballabhpur	77,539	85,241	9 9
Amta	109,968	120,632	9·6
Bagnan	63,563	68,832	8·2
Ulubaria	81,345	87,696	7·8
Syampur	68,861	77,755	13·0
Howrah Municipality including Bally ...	105,628	133,306	25·9
Total excluding municipalities ...	529,753	587,905	10·9
„ including ditto ...	635,381	721,211	13·4

There has thus been an increase of population in every *thana* in this district. The Census returns of 1881 showed a falling off of 4·28 per cent. in the population of Jagatballabhpur and of ·15 per cent. in that of Amta as compared with the returns of the previous census. Not only is this falling off not now observable, but a fair percentage of increase has been attained in respect of these *thanas*. This is mainly attributable to the absence of any mortality from famine or epidemics of late years. The opening out of a canal through the Jagatballabhpur and Amta *thanas* has noticeably increased the population of the *thanas* by adding materially to the population of the villages through which the canal passes. The same is to be said of the Bagnan *thana*. The high percentage of increase for Dumjor *thana* is due as much to the natural tendency to the multiplication of population as to the fact that, being in the close neighbourhood of the head-quarters, many new families have settled within its jurisdiction. The increase of population in Ulubaria and Syampur may be due to normal causes. The municipalities owe their increase to the commercial and manufacturing industries which attract every year an ever-increasing number of labourers from different parts of the country, and particularly from Bihar.

77. *Male and Female population.*—The following shows the totals of male and female population in this district:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Dumjor ...	75,870	71,879	147,749
Jagatballabhpur ...	40,197	45,044	85,241
Amta ...	55,149	65,483	120,632
Bagnan ...	32,754	36,078	68,832
Ulubaria ...	43,313	44,383	87,696
Syampur ...	37,615	40,140	77,755
Howrah Municipality	70,477	46,129	116,606
Bally ditto	9,515	7,185	16,700

It is thus seen that there is an excess of the female above the male population in *thanas* outside the municipalities, Dumjor alone excepted. The reason for the female element preponderating in rural tracts seems to be that a great many of the male population in them resort to various towns for employment, leaving their wives behind at home. The same reason explains the number of males being greater in the municipalities than that of females. No particular cause can be assigned for the male element preponderating in Dumjor *thana*, but its contiguity to the municipality may have something to do with it. Taking the district as a whole, however, a preponderance of 5,848 males is observable over the female population. But when it is considered that the number of male immigrants is greater by far than that of female immigrants, it may reasonably be surmised that the totals of the *fixed* male and female population are about identical.

*Abstraction.**

78. *Starting of work.*—The abstraction office was opened in the Howrah Town Hall on the 1st of April 1891 with two gangs of abstractors under seven room supervisors, with one record-keeper, an Inspector's clerk, and one duftry—all under the guidance of one Inspector, who joined the office duties on the 7th idem. The abstractors were selected from those who were reported to be very useful supervisors or enumerators. Every attention was paid to redeem the promise made to them in their letter of appointment if the applicants were found thoroughly competent. When such men were not available, candidates with High School and University education were got. Services of a B.A. were got in the office, and he worked thoroughly satisfactorily. The sheets I, VII, X and XI were first issued, sheets VIII and IX being taken in hand, issued later on.

79. *Abstraction sheets.*—The following remarks seem necessary on the vernacular sheets and forms which were used for abstraction. In sheet I the column of *infant* and one year, as well as those for age-periods 45 to 50 and downwards, were such as to mislead the abstractor's hand in putting the ticks under those heads. The sheets contained big lots, and there being only one line kept for each of these age-periods instead of two, as in the case of the remaining ones, the Bengali-knowing abstractor might put the tick for *infant* in the column for one year, and so on. Such intermixture of ticks might cause grave mistakes. In some cases such mistakes were detected and rectified then and there. The room supervisors were warned to pay special attention to this point. In sheet III, instructions to transcribe the occupations as they were in the schedules, and prevention to aim at combination of identical occupation or anything of the kind lengthened the task on the sheet, and consequently entailed hard labour on the abstractors. In sheet X, a tick was to be put for a man literate, both in English and Vernacular, in the column of English. This caused a deficiency of one tick in the column of Vernacular, for two ticks were not allowed for one man, as it would have caused a variance of grand totals with other sheets. It therefore appears proper that the information as to English-knowing should be gathered in a different sheet to be used along with sheet X, as sheet VII is worked with sheet I, or by providing a third column for those who are literate both in English and Vernacular. The important statistics under the head of English-knowing may thus be correctly elicited, and the number of persons knowing Vernacular and English may also be accurately obtained. The R form

* *Vide* letters Nos. 273C and 295C, dated 16th January 1892 and 14th April 1892 respectively, from W. Fiddian, Esq. Magistrate of Howrah, to the Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal.

was the Gordian knot in the abstractor's work. The closeness of the lines in R form making small squares hardly enough to contain two digits, and particularly necessitating a strain on the abstractor's eyes, added much to his terror about it.

80. *Test slip.*—The test slips were very useful. Their preparation was worth the time and labour spent upon them. The usefulness of the test slip would have been doubly increased if they had contained a specification of castes from sheets II, X and XI. This deficiency of caste test in the test slip was much felt, and had to be made up by the elaborate method of intercomparison. The test slip should, however, have scope for entries from caste sheets, *i.e.*, the number of caste and population of each caste from schedules. If this were so, the discrepancies of caste sheets could have been rectified earlier than done, and tabulation had not to wait for the completion of intercomparison even after adjustment of all the sheets.

81. *Method of abstraction.*—The records of *thana* Dumjor were first re-sorted into packets of 5,000, and were issued out for abstraction in a regular order. The *thanas* that were taken up next in succession were Jagatbullabhpur, Ulubaria, Amta, Bagnan and Syampur. The two municipalities of Howrah and Bali were taken in hand last of all. The cyclical and methodical advance of the main packets from one sheet to another was thoroughly observed and practically carried out. Such were the principles laid down by the Census Superintendent in the circulars for the conduct of work, that, if one man lagged behind, the work of the whole office would tend to come towards a fix. Therefore from among the whole staff, the best four were picked out for filling up the posts of test slips and R. form clerks. This prevented a good deal of difficulties at the very outset. By the time circular No. 63 on the subject of employing four extra clerks on this duty came to hand, test slips and R. forms advanced *parri passu* with the abstraction sheets. The abstraction of municipal work came last of all when the training of the abstractors was sufficient to enable them to get on with work easily. The abstraction of Howrah was completed on the 3rd July. The quarter million population of Burdwan, which was made over to this office, was then taken up and completed on the 31st July. An announcement to the effect of the closing of abstraction work of Howrah was considered by the Census Superintendent a point for publication in his circular No. 82.

82. *Task.*—In five hours, full task in all sheets was generally accomplished by the abstractors, who got a training for a day or two in the work. The work of new men often lagged behind, and such arrangement was made in the office as might not entail any extra expenditure or interfere with the cyclical order of the work. This was made up by extra hours work in the morning and evening. The manner in which the task was adjusted and prescribed by circular No. 42 made nobody's situation in the office enviable to his neighbour. It must be noted, however, that the practicability of performing the full task as prescribed by the circular was hardly applicable to the majority of the *thanas* of the district of Howrah; and in order to realize the full task on all the sheets, special attention was paid to the distribution of abstractors according to the requirement of the work, such as the more intelligent men were put on sheets I and XI, and the rest on the remaining sheets, the more hardworking among the latter being put to sheets II, III, and X. Whenever this order was disturbed by reason of absence or otherwise, difficulties arose, and the room supervisor bitterly complained of the new men, as he was responsible for the full and accurate task in his room. In no case, however, the cyclical order was allowed to be disturbed, and such temporary difficulties were got over by overtime work and help of apprentices. In consideration of the enormity of the task in the municipalities and *thanas* adjoining them by reason of a large variety of religions, occupations, castes and sub-castes, a few apprentices were employed before the question of doing so was raised in circular No. 63. They acted as relieving hands, and their number was highest when the work of the Howrah Municipality was going on. It need hardly be said that the basis on which the dimensions of work were calculated for the districts of Bengal, was wholly inadequate in regard to the Howrah Municipality. The enormously large variety of occupations and excessively wide range of castes and sub-castes, thwarted the efforts of the abstractors to bring up each day's work, and necessitated the appointment of two additional men on sheet XI, two on sheets IV and V, and two on sheet III. The Census Superintendent's sanction was obtained to this arrangement, which was necessitated by the unique circumstances of the town of Howrah.

83. *Remarks.*—It seems very proper to employ the whole staff of abstractors on the easier sheets at first, and then gradually to advance to the more difficult and intricate ones. The advantage of the other method of each abstractor acquiring a facility in his own sheet by continuous employment on that sheet was not practically gained, for the percentage of absentees was large enough, and requisition for trained men for a different section of work was constant enough, to necessitate changes very often. The newness of work was therefore often felt. There arises a question, however, that if sheets IV, V, VI and VII be the only ones for abstraction at first, and none of the sheet I or XI be attempted, the true population of each schedule-book may not be had in many cases, for the enumerators were found in the course of making the preliminary enumeration to fill in the age column more fully than any other. It, therefore, appears proper to start at least either of the sheets I and XI along with the easier ones by the more intelligent men.

Re-abstraction.

84. *Staff.*—Circular No. 42 provided for 14 re-abstractors for the Howrah office. These men were selected from those who got an insight into the nature of the abstraction work, and who made fewer mistakes in their work. Re-abstraction was begun on 20th April, and it was

found that the proportion of re-abstracting staff was not equal to the quantity of re-abstraction required.

85. *Method.*—The system of passing a sheet for re-abstraction by the Inspector on his finding a disagreement of the grand totals, was in itself defective, for grand totals might agree in many cases in which sub-totals widely differed. Then, again, to pass a schedule for re-abstraction, keeping aside the abstracted sheets, and not for re-examination, led to a good deal of unproductive labour. A later circular drew the attention of the Inspector to the inspection of sub-totals. This circular removed one difficulty, but another difficulty continued to exist in the following shape; that is, at the end of each re-abstraction a sheet would not be pronounced thoroughly accurate. It necessitated such repetition of work that nobody could practically comprehend when to stop, for the re-abstractors were as much liable to error as the abstractors, and the one is likely to commit a blunder where the other was right, and *vice versâ*.

86. *Adjustment.*—The circular No. 1554C., on the system of adjustment offered the saving clause, and was received at a time when something of the kind was eagerly expected for progress of that work. If the sheet I was thoroughly tested and raised to such eminence that it could be made the basis of so small a correction as one per cent. on the other sheets, there cannot be the least manner of doubt as to their accuracy. This process of re-abstraction was adopted and found to work so well that it bore the test of all inspection, and with the practice of a week the re-abstractors became efficient men to touch at one hit the point where the mistake lay. The revised scale of their pay and the offer of reward from the abstractor's fine added stimulus to the work. It must, however, be stated that the eyes of the supervising staff should be constantly on the work of the re-abstractors, whose very minute deviation from the prescribed principle might spoil the thoroughly accurate nature of work. The limit of adjustment was not required to be exceeded in most cases for the purpose of correction. When the mistake exceeded the limit of correction allowed by the adjustment, the schedule was re-abstracted. According to this principle, about 15 per cent. of abstraction sheets required re-abstraction. The re-abstraction was begun 16 days after the abstraction, and lasted for 16 days after the abstraction was over.

Tabulation.

87. *Staff.*—Considerable delay occurred in the re-abstraction work for reasons specified above, and sufficient number of blocks for starting tabulation was ready much later on than it was anticipated in circular No. 42. When the adjustment system was enforced the abstractors, and re-abstractors' work pressed so hard upon the adjustment clerks that the second room-supervisors from sheets I to XI were withdrawn one after the other and put to the adjustment work in order that a sufficient number of blocks might be ready for tabulation. In the second week of June, 14 tabulators were engaged, and on the last week of the month the number was increased to 28. On the completion of the abstraction and re-abstraction of the quarter-million population of Burdwan, *i.e.*, on the 19th of August, the whole staff of abstractors were set to tabulation according to circular No. 85. The principle of engaging each clerk to tabulate from the same sheet as he was employed in abstracting was particularly adhered to and found very advantageous.

88. *Method.*—The tabulation was begun like the abstraction from the rural *thanas* to the municipalities. In tabulation, the *thanas* were also taken in hand in the same order in which they were abstracted. In the latter part of August, when the highest number of tabulators were at work, more than one *thana* had to be issued at a time. The tabulation of the municipalities came last of all. The tabulators' work in all registers was begun just as it was intended by circular No. 68 for the synchronous termination of each register, which, however, could hardly be maintained for the various degree of progress made in the several registers. The tabulation of Howrah was completed on the 4th of September, including the tabulation of the *thanas* Kaksa, Ketugram, and Raneegunge, and the totalling forms W, Y, S, and Z, the last of which was checked by the Inspector and the Assistant Inspectors in the course of a few days more.

89. *Task.*—The tabulators' work was not considered easy, and a huge cry was raised against the task prescribed by circular No. 68, subsequently modified by circular No. 78 of 16th June. This modification was also liable to complaint, but the full task was enforced by strict office rules. Whenever the task limit fell short in the case of any tabulator, he suffered it at the sacrifice of pay which was now based on task done. It may be that the task of tabulation was not uniformly severe in all districts, for the severity depended on the number of registers that had to be opened in consequence of a variety of religions and the length of registers required for tabulating a block in consequence of a wide range of castes, sub-castes, birth-districts, &c. In respect of this branch of the tabulation work, the district of Howrah was under a great disadvantage. A tabulator on Howrah work could hardly accomplish the task prescribed by the circular. The fact was reported to the Census Superintendent, and the tabulators demurred to the arrangement of paying them on task system instead of the monthly rate of Rs. 15. The approximate outturn of work of each clerk per day on each register is shown below:—

Register.	In the beginning.	At the end.
I to VI, A, B, C. ...	... 10 sheets	... 17 sheets.
VII ...	... 20 „	... 29 „
VIII and IX ...	... 85 „	... 35 „
XV A, B. ...	... 19 „	... 22 „
XIX ...	... 21 „	... 19 „
XX ...	... 20 „	... 15 „

It will be seen that the task on registers I to VI, A, B, C., VII and XV gradually increased and the other registers decreased. The order in which the *thanas* were taken in hand for tabulation makes it clear that the amount of work on the former registers increased by causing overtime work by the tabulators, who now acquired greater facility, but on the latter registers materials for tabulation per block were large enough per each municipal block to justify a diminution of outturn. This, however, affected the pay of the tabulators, who were induced to work extra hours in order that the loss might not tell upon them.

90. *Totalling Forms.*—The circular No. 79 on the totalling forms came to hand on the 2nd July. The forms came later on. This stupendous work was commenced at once by the experts of the office, and the progress made by them was a cause of alarm against early completion of the work. The circular prescribed no definite task for them : a monthly reward was only promised in the circular for the best men who could prepare them from their own registers. To complete the day's task on the tabulation registers XIV, XV, XIX, and XX, in addition to the preparation of the totalling forms W, Y, S, and Z, was found impracticable. Difficult as the forms were, the tabulators could hardly do any portion of it in the course of the day, after completing the day's task in the registers. Very great attention had to be paid to the work, and a small amount of extra charge was unavoidable for their preparation. The long additions required in the figures of the totalling forms led to mistakes, and so the best tabulators were taught the principle of addition by means of numerical balls. This system produced thoroughly accurate result, converting the whole operation of addition almost to a mere mechanical skill. The difficulty of work in totalling forms of the municipalities and most of the *thanas* of Howrah led us to conclude that it was a mistake to class Howrah with the other outlying districts of Bengal in point of task. The work of the district of Burdwan, which was done through this office, bore out the truth of this statement. Though the estimate of task and establishment found applicable to Burdwan were wholly inadequate, for the Howrah Municipality and the adjoining *thanas*, in which caste, sub-caste and occupation sheets from which totalling forms are prepared, are vastly in excess of the average of other districts.

91. *Registers.*—As for the registers, I beg to observe that if the forms were bound like the enumerators' schedules of four different sizes to suit exactly the requirements of the number of blocks to be tabulated together, the work on the registers would have been done more neatly and finished more quietly.

92. *Special additional work of the district of Burdwan.*—On the 24th June 1891 a quarter-million population of 1,314 blocks of *thanas* Kaksa, Ketugram, and Raniganj, of the district of Burdwan, was made over to this office for abstraction and tabulation. The abstraction of these *thanas* was begun just when the abstraction of Howrah was completed, and the tabulation was done simultaneously with the Howrah work, which all was finished on the 4th of September last. The second instalment of work received from Burdwan on the 24th September 1891 was sent here for tabulation only in registers I to XX, excepting the registers XVI and XVII of the following *thanas*, consisting of 2,654 blocks, viz., *thanas* Satgachia, Ausgram, Boodbud, Mongolekote, Assensole and the Municipality of Raniganj. This work was commenced on the 28th of September with four gangs of tabulators. Another gang was added to the number in the second week, by whom the whole was completed. The office remained closed from the 8th to 18th on account of Durga Pujah, during when all the tabulators were discharged. A third instalment of work received from the Magistrate of Burdwan, under the instructions of the Census Superintendent, on the 9th November 1891, for tabulation in registers XIV, XV, XIX, and XX with totalling forms, consisted of about 4,000 blocks of the following *thanas*, viz., *thanas* Kaksa, Khandaghose, Monteswar, Jamalpur, Purbasthali, Burdwan, Shahebganj, Raona and the municipalities of Kalna, Dainhat, Manker, Burdwan, and Katwa. This work was begun on the 13th November, and was completed on the 13th December when this office was finally closed. In these cases full task was turned out by most tabulators.

93. *Pay.*—The abstractor's pay of Rs. 12 a month was not in itself a sufficient inducement for people to accept the post. The best enumerators who would have accepted a post for a little higher pay did not come. It may be that some of those who came to the work did not deserve a higher rate of pay, but the entertainment of such men was to some extent detrimental to the quality of the work. If the pay be raised to Rs. 15 instead of Rs. 18 as proposed, better men will surely be had, for census work in a metropolitan district in that case will not necessitate much of re-abstraction and adjustment. The cost at the same time will be moderate. In Howrah, the total expenditure on abstraction, paying at Rs. 12 a month, was Rs. 2,168-3 6 The cost of re-abstraction and adjustment was Rs. 749-12-6. If the abstractors were paid at Rs. 15 a month, and if that work had not required re-abstraction and adjustment, the total cost would have been Rs. 2,710-4-4. Of this rate, Rs. 3 per clerk may be held back until the work is finally tested. Any re-abstractor might be paid for out of the withheld pay. Thus it will be observed that the cost of work, paying at Rs. 15 a month, will be advantageous in the long run, for if the rate was raised to Rs. 18, the cost of one million population would have been Rs. 3,252-5-3, thus exceeding the amount spent for abstraction, re-abstraction, and adjustment by over Rs. 300. The tabulators should be a better staff of men than could be had for Rs. 15 a month, and may be paid at Rs. 18 a month to ensure a much better quality of work. Tabulators were found to complain of the system of engaging two persons on the same register, one being writer and the other the reader. Either of the two was led to complain of the slowness of the other. If all the tabulators be of a superior class of men, it is supposed that they may be better engaged singly on each register.

94. *Cost.*—In the whole administration of this office special attention was paid to saving of cost. The chief saving of cost was effected in tabulation by having always 400 to 600 persons (according to the dimension of blocks) in each abstraction sheet. The tabulators were paid on task system; and if each book had been abstracted in each sheet, the cost of tabulation would have been larger than charged for. There was then also a saving of forms, for the indent and use of which every care was taken, and at the end of each work there were either only a few forms of each kind or none at all left. Other savings of small amounts were also effected in staff and office expenditure, and a considerable saving was made by withholding rewards to the abstractors and room-supervisors for their least shortcoming. This office has also earned a considerable contribution from the municipalities, viz., from Howrah Municipality Rs. 471-13, and Bali Municipality Rs. 67-3-6. It must be noticed here that letter No. 3378 allowed expenditure for four months on abstraction and tabulation. This office lasted a few days over five months, within which time the entire work of the *thanas* Kaksa, Ketugram, and Raniganj of the district of Burdwan was finished. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 6,146-9-10, contingencies and house-rent excepted. The amount includes the cost of the said three *thanas* of Burdwan. The expenditure therefore divides for the district of Howrah and the said *thanas* of Burdwan, as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Howrah	4,529	1	5
Burdwan	1,617	8	5

The cost of the tabulation work of the 13 more *thanas* and 5 municipalities of Burdwan, the work of which lasted from the 28th September to 12th November, and 13th November to 12th December, was Rs. 1,640-13-2.

W. S.—Reg. No. 1151J—90—9-7-94.